



Vice President Joe Biden speaks during The American Legion's annual convention Houston on Tuesday, Aug. 27, 2013.

(AP Photo/J. Hanson)

## National Security

JULIE PACE  
ROBERT BURNS

Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The Obama administration tried to bolster its case Tuesday for possible military action against Syria within days, with intelligence agencies preparing to release intercepted communications aimed at proving Bashar Assad perpetrated a large-scale chemical weapons attack on civilians. "There's no doubt who is responsible for this heinous use of chemical weapons in Syria: the Syrian regime," Vice President Joe Biden said.

The U.S. and international partners were unlikely to undertake military action before Thursday. That's when British Prime Minister David Cameron will convene an emergency meeting of Parliament where lawmakers are expected to vote on a motion clearing the way for a British response to the alleged chemical weapons attack. Obama and Cameron conferred on response plans Tuesday, their second known conversation in recent days.

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## DREAM COME TRUE



President Barack Obama speaking in the East Room of the White House in Washington. President Obama will deliver remarks at the nationwide commemoration of the 1963 March on Washington, Wednesday, August 28th, 2013.

(AP Photo/Jacquelyn Martin)

## Obama To Deliver Remarks At March Anniversary

**DARLENE SUPERVILLE**  
Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** —

Barack Obama was 2 years old and growing up in Hawaii when Martin Luther King Jr., the American civil rights leader, delivered his "I Have a Dream" speech from the steps of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington. Fifty years later, the nation's first black president will stand as the most high-profile example of the racial progress King espoused, delivering remarks Wednesday at a nationwide commemoration of the 1963 demonstration for jobs, economic justice and racial equality.

Obama believes his suc-

cess in attaining the nation's highest political office is a testament to the dedication of King and others, and that he would not be the current White House occupant if it were not for their willingness to persevere through repeated imprisonments, bomb threats and blasts from billy clubs and fire hoses.

"When you are talking about Dr. King's speech at the March on Washington, you're talking about one of the maybe five greatest speeches in American history," Obama said in a radio interview Tuesday. "And the words that he spoke at that particular moment, with so much at stake,

and the way in which he captured the hopes and dreams of an entire generation I think is unmatched." In tribute, Obama keeps a bust of King in the Oval Office and a framed copy of the program from that historic day when 250,000 people gathered for the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom.

Within five years, the man Obama would later identify as one of his idols was dead, assassinated in April 1968 outside of a motel room in Memphis, Tennessee.

But King's dream didn't die with him. Many believe it came true in 2008 when Obama became the first

black man Americans ever elected as their president.

"Tomorrow, just like 50 years ago, an African-American man will stand on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial and speak about civil rights and justice. But afterward, he won't visit the White House. He'll go home to the White House," Education Secretary Arne Duncan said Tuesday, speaking of his basketball buddy and boss.

"That's how far this country has come. A black president is a victory that few could have imagined 50 years ago."

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## US readies rationale for possible Syria strike

Continued from Front

Administration officials argued that Assad's actions posed a direct threat to U.S. national security, providing President Barack Obama with a potential legal justification for launching a strike without authorization from the United Nations or Congress. However, officials did not detail how the U.S. was directly threatened by an attack contained within Syria's borders. Nor did they present concrete proof that Assad was responsible.

ian leader from power or impact the broader trajectory of Syria's bloody civil war, which is now in its third year.

"The options we are considering are not about regime change," Carney told reporters.

According to U.S. officials, the most likely operation would be largely sea-based, with the strikes coming primarily from Navy warships in the Mediterranean Sea. Fighter jets often are deployed to monitor the area and protect the ships, but Syria's robust air defense system

people were killed in the attack. A U.S. official said the intelligence report is expected to include "signals intelligence" — information gathered from intercepted communications.

All of the officials insisted on anonymity because they were not authorized to publicly discuss the internal deliberations.

Even before releasing that information, U.S. officials said they had very little doubt that Assad was culpable in the attack based on witness reports, information on the number of vic-



White House press secretary Jay Carney answers questions about Syria and chemical weapons during his daily news briefing at the White House in Washington, Tuesday, Aug. 27, 2013. The U.S. was expected to make public a more formal determination of chemical weapons use on Tuesday, however Carney stated that the president did not have a decision made about the response to announce at this time.

(AP Photo/Jacquelyn Martin)

"Allowing the use of chemical weapons on a significant scale to take place without a response would present a significant challenge to, threat to the United States' national security," White House spokesman Jay Carney said.

Assad has denied using chemical weapons, calling the allegations "preposterous."

Obama is weighing a response focused narrowly on punishing Assad for violating international agreements that ban the use of chemical weapons, an act the president repeatedly has said would cross a "red line."

Officials said the goal was not to drive the Syr-

ian makes air strikes more difficult and risky.

Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel said military forces stand ready to strike Syria immediately if the commander in chief gives the order. The Navy has four destroyers in the eastern Mediterranean within range of targets inside Syria and also has warplanes in the region.

"We are ready to go," Hagel said during a television interview while traveling in Asia.

Ahead of any strike, the U.S. also plans to release additional intelligence it says will directly link Assad to the Aug. 21 attack in the Damascus suburbs. Syrian activists say hundreds of

tims and the symptoms of those killed or injured, and intelligence showing the Syrian government has not lost control of its chemical weapons stockpiles.

Other administration officials echoed Biden's comments, which marked a subtle shift in the administration's rhetoric on who bears responsibility for the attack. Earlier in the week officials would say only that there was "very little doubt" Assad was responsible.

Obama, Biden and other senior officials have spent much of the week seeking to rally international support for an aggressive response to the chemical weapons attack. □

## LATIN AMERICAN BRIEFS

### Colombian rebels free Canadian executive

**BOGOTA, Colombia (AP)** — Colombia's No. 2 rebel group on Tuesday freed a Canadian mining executive who had spent seven months in captivity and whose company cancelled a gold mining project. The International Committee of the Red Cross issued a communique announcing that Gernot Wober was freed in the same northern state where he was seized on Jan. 18. The National Liberation Army had demanded that Wober's employer drop plans to explore for gold at the Snow Mine property in Sur de Bolivar state and Braeval Mining Corp. announced in July that it was pulling out. The group said the land had been stolen from its legitimate owners. □

### Mexico offers reward for drug war missing

**MEXICO CITY (AP)** — The Mexican government is offering rewards of up to 2 million pesos (\$150,000) for information on 14 people who have vanished during the country's drug war. While the government has often offered large rewards for information on suspects, it has seldom done the same for missing people. Government lists suggest that at least 26,121 people were reported missing between 2006 and 2012. Many apparently were killed and secretly buried. Some may just have fled and left no word of where they went. Murillo Karam said cartel members now face "unemployment" because the gangs are being "rooted out." □

### Dissident case final straw for Brazil official

**BRASILIA, Brazil (AP)** — A smuggled Bolivian dissident may have prompted the ouster of Brazil's foreign minister, but it was just the final blow for Antonio Patriota. That's what pundits are saying a day after President Dilma Rousseff replaced Patriota with the current U.N. ambassador. Brazil's La Paz embassy had sheltered Bolivian Sen. Roger Pinto, but Rousseff was angered when a lower-level diplomat acting on his own spirited the man into Brazil itself. Political columnist Eliane Cantanhede with the Folha de S. Paulo newspaper says it was the last straw for Patriota, whose handling of issues such as the U.S. spy scandal had irked Rousseff. □

### Mexico's vigilantes attack police, take arms

**MEXICO CITY (AP)** — Vigilantes in the southern Mexico state of Guerrero have attacked local police in the town of Tixtla, beaten them and stolen their rifles. The conflict with the radical "self defense" group threatens a fragile detente that state officials have achieved with vigilantes. The group armed with hunting rifles mobbed police armed with assault rifles, and stole their guns earlier this week. The town's chief of police was wounded, apparently with a machete. Guerrero Gov. Angel Aguirre says the violence threatens talks aimed at defusing tensions. The vigilantes complain their members have been arrested, but authorities insist they can't take their weapons outside their townships. □

### Brazil commercial building collapses, kills 6

**SAO PAULO (AP)** — A commercial building under construction in Brazil's biggest city collapsed Tuesday, killing at least six people and sending large chunks of rubble and a blanket of dust onto nearby vehicles. Another 24 people escaped or were pulled alive from the rubble and at least seven of those were in critical condition at hospitals, authorities said. It was possible another eight people remained trapped. □



# Obama To Deliver Remarks At March Anniversary

Continued from Front

"He stands on the shoulders of Martin Luther King, and the sacrifices that King made that make a President Obama possible are deeply humbling to him," said Valerie Jarrett, one of Obama's senior advisers and a close family friend. For Obama, the march is a "seminal event" and part of his generation's "formative memory."

A half century after the march, he said, is a good time to reflect on how far the country has come and how far it still has to go, particularly after the Trayvon Martin shooting trial in Florida.

A jury's decision to acquit neighborhood watchman George Zimmerman in the 2012 fatal shooting of the unarmed, 17-year-old black teen outraged blacks across the country last month and reignited a nationwide discussion about the state of U.S. race relations. The response to the verdict also raised expectations for America's black president to say something about the case. Race isn't a subject Obama likes to talk about in public, and he does so only when the times require it, such as the speech on race that he gave in 2008 when his presidential campaign was threatened by the anti-American rantings of his Chicago pastor, the Rev. Jeremiah Wright. In his interview Tuesday with Tom Joyner and co-host Sybil Wilkes of the Tom Joyner Morning Show, Obama said he imagines that King "would be amazed in many ways about the progress that we've made." He listed advances such as equal rights before the law, an accessible judicial system, thousands of African-American elected officials, African-American chief executives and the doors that the civil rights movement opened for Latinos, women and gays.

"I think he would say it was a glorious thing," he said. But Obama noted that

King's speech was also about jobs and justice. "When it comes to the economy, when it comes to inequality, when it comes to wealth, when it comes to the challenges that inner cities experience, he would say that we have not made as much progress as the civil and social progress that we've made,

and that it's not enough just to have a black president, it's not enough just to have a black syndicated radio show host," Obama said.

When he was much younger, it took Obama time to embrace his black-white, African and American heritage. He chronicled that personal journey in his best-

selling memoir, "Dreams From My Father," in which he wrote about himself as "the mixed blood, the divided soul, the ghostly image of the tragic mulatto trapped between two worlds."

After Zimmerman was acquitted, Obama spoke out to help people understand black outrage over the ver-

dict.

In unusually personal terms, Obama talked about experiences he shares with so many other black men, before he became a well-known public figure, such as being followed in department stores and hearing the click of car doors being locked as he walked by. □



In this combination of Associated Press file photos, at left, a mass of demonstrators leaves the Washington Monument for the March on Washington on Aug. 28, 1963; and at right, people line the Reflecting Pool as they attend a rally to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the 1963 march, in Washington.

(AP Photo/File)

## Boehner foresees 'whale of a fight' over debt limit

ASHLEY PARKER  
© 2013 New York Times

House Speaker John A. Boehner said Monday that he was gearing up for "a whale of a fight" with President Barack Obama over raising the federal debt ceiling, even though Obama has repeatedly said he has no plans to negotiate with congressional Republicans over the nation's debt limit and wants it lifted without a political showdown.

At an Idaho fundraiser for Rep. Mike Simpson, a Republican and close ally, Boehner said he planned to use the need to raise the

debt ceiling to gain political leverage and demand "cuts and reforms that are greater than the increase in the debt limit."

"The president doesn't think this is fair, thinks I'm being difficult to deal with," Boehner said in his remarks, reported by The Idaho Statesman. "But I'll say this: It may be unfair, but what I'm trying to do here is to leverage the political process to produce more change than what it would produce if left to its own devices. We're going to have a whale of a fight." Boehner's comments

came as Treasury Secretary Jacob J. Lew warned him in a letter on Monday that unless Congress raised the debt ceiling, the government would lose the ability to pay all of its bills in mid-October. "Congress should act as soon as possible to protect America's good credit by extending normal borrowing authority well before any risk of default becomes imminent," Lew wrote. "Based on our latest estimates, extraordinary measures are projected to be exhausted in the middle of October. At that point, the United States will have

reached the limit of its borrowing authority, and Treasury would be left to fund the government with only the cash we have on hand any given day."

The Obama administration has said repeatedly that it will not allow congressional Republicans to use the debt limit to wring concessions from the White House, similar to the fiscal showdown that occurred at the end of last year.

The Federal Reserve has warned that political brinkmanship over the debt ceiling could hamper the economic recovery. □



# Crews report progress against massive California fire

**BRIAN SKOLOFF**  
**TRACIE CONE**  
**Associated Press**

**TUOLUMNE CITY, California**  
**(AP)** — Crews are finally making progress against a massive U.S. wildfire burning near Yosemite National Park, fire officials said, and fears that the inferno could disrupt water or power to the city of San Francisco diminished.

While the fire continued to grow in size, containment numbers were up, Glen Stratton, an operations chief on the fire suppression team, said late Monday. The fire was 20 percent contained, up from 7 percent hours earlier. Officials said the fire had grown to about 280 square miles (725.2 sq. kilometers), up from about 252 square miles (652.6 sq. kilometers) the previous day.

Most of Yosemite, one of the country's most popular national parks, remained open to visitors. Flames lapped at the edge of the main reservoir that supplies San Francisco, but the ash that has been raining onto the reservoir has not sunk as far as the water supply intake valves.

"It looks great out there. No concerns," Stratton said of the Hetch Hetchy Reservoir. Nearly 3,700 firefighters battled the wildfire, the biggest on record in California's Sierra Nevada mountains.

The U.S. Forest Service said the fire was threatening about 4,500 structures and destroyed at least 101. Heavy smoke settling low to the ground could limit visibility early Tuesday, but

higher humidity was expected in the afternoon, which could help dampen the flames, said Matt Mehle, a National Weather Service meteorologist assigned to the fire.

California fire spokesman Daniel Berlant said crews were anticipating cooler temperatures and higher humidity this week that



A videographer records the Rim Fire burning through trees near Yosemite National Park, Calif., on Tuesday, Aug. 27, 2013. Firefighters gained some ground Tuesday against the huge wildfire burning forest lands in the western Sierra Nevada, including parts of Yosemite National Park.

(AP Photo/Jae C. Hong)

could allow them to gain control of the fire. Rugged terrain, strong winds and dry conditions have hurt firefighters' efforts to contain the fire, which began Aug. 17. The cause has not been determined. □

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could allow them to gain control of the fire.

Rugged terrain, strong winds and dry conditions have hurt firefighters' efforts to contain the fire, which began Aug. 17. The cause has not been determined. □

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## US seeks to delay airline-merger trial

**DAVID KOENIG**  
**AP Airlines Writer**

**DALLAS (AP)** — The U.S. government wants to wait until March for a trial on its lawsuit aimed at blocking the merger of American Airlines and US Airways, a deal that would create the world's biggest airline.

The airlines want to start the trial in November. They had hoped to close the merger next month, but that was before the U.S. Justice Department and six states filed the antitrust case two weeks ago.

The Justice Department said in a court filing Tuesday that given the stakes in the merger, it needs until March 3 to develop evidence and prepare for trial. It accused the airlines of rushing the case.

The lawsuit is the last obstacle preventing American Airlines parent AMR Corp. from closing the merger and emerging from nearly two years of bankruptcy protection. In a written statement, AMR and US Airways Group Inc. said that the government's request was slow and unrea-

sonable after a Justice Department investigation that they say lasted 16 months. The carriers approached the Justice Department before the deal was publicly announced in February. "Unnecessary delays also prevent American's financial stakeholders, which includes creditors, shareholders and employees, from realizing the benefits and improved certainty that will come from American's emergence" from bankruptcy, they said. The Justice Department said that the airlines shouldn't use the bankruptcy case to justify a quick trial on the antitrust lawsuit. It said that AMR and US Airways knew all along that that an antitrust challenge was possible. Colleen Kollar-Kotelly, the federal judge in Washington, D.C., who is hearing the case, plans to hold a conference on the trial schedule Friday.

The Justice Department originally sought a Feb. 10 start, but pushed it back after the judge said she had a long criminal trial scheduled to begin Jan. 14. □



# Mexico grower linked to stomach illnesses resumes operations

MARY CLARE JALONICK  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — An outbreak of more than 600 severe stomach illnesses around the U.S. remains a mystery as the Food and Drug Administration, a government safety group, says it found no food safety violations at a Mexican farm linked to some of the illnesses. The FDA said Tuesday that Taylor Farms de Mexico could resume operations after investigators found conditions there "in accordance with known food safety protocols." The firm shut down voluntarily earlier this month after its salad mix served at Olive Garden and Red Lobster restaurants was linked to 242 cyclospora infections in the Midwest states of Nebraska and Iowa.

Similar illnesses in 20 other states were never definitively linked to the farm, and officials say they do not know why the number of illnesses is still growing in some other states, including Texas, which has seen more than 280 sickened. The CDC says it has found evidence that many of those sickened in Texas ate at the same restaurant, but that it does not "show a connection" to salad mix produced at Taylor Farms. The CDC would not identify the restaurant, and officials say it is possible that there are multiple outbreaks.

Cyclospora is usually found outside the United States and is caused by parasites that are spread when people ingest food or water contaminated with feces. People who are exposed usually become sick after

about a week and have diarrhea and other flu-like symptoms that can last from a few days to several months if not treated with antibiotics. The outbreak investigation is unusual in that federal and state officials have not been able to trace all of the illnesses back to one item and that the farm did not show any evidence of contamination. In large outbreaks, officials trace the illnesses through interviews and laboratory tests and then, ideally, later find contamination at a farm, processing plant or other location where the food has been produced or held. Recent large outbreaks of illness in cantaloupe, peanuts, and eggs have followed this pattern. One factor making the investigation more difficult is that cyclospora is not common in the United States, and there may be many illnesses that have not been identified. Doctors have to test specifically for cyclospora and many do not because it is rare. The CDC said it does not have the tools to distinguish one strain of the infection from another, making it harder to determine if there are multiple outbreaks. It can also be difficult to pinpoint the exact source of contamination. While some investigations find unclean conditions, other outbreaks can remain a mystery forever. Food can be tainted by the smallest of transgressions, including an animal that broke through a fence and defecated on a patch of lettuce or a worker who doesn't wash his or her hands after going to the bathroom. □



Packages of Taylor Farms salads are offered for sale at a supermarket in Omaha, Neb. The FDA said Tuesday that Taylor Farms de Mexico could resume operations after investigators found conditions there "in accordance with known food safety protocols."

(AP Photo/Nati Harnik)

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## At charter schools, short careers by demand

**MOTOKO RICH**

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**HOUSTON** - Tyler Dowdy just started his third year of teaching at YES Prep West, a charter school here. He

across the country begin their school year, charter networks are developing what amounts to a youth cult in which teaching for two to five years is seen as

But with teachers confronting the overhaul of evaluations and tenure as well as looming changes in pensions, the small but rapidly growing charter school

lege graduates into low-income schools for two years. Today, Teach for America places about a third of its recruits in charter schools. "Strong schools can withstand the turnover of their teachers," said Wendy Kopp, the founder of Teach for America. "The strongest schools develop their teachers tremendously so they become great in the classroom even in their first and second years." Studies have shown that on average, teacher turnover diminishes student achievement. Advocates who argue that teaching should become more like medicine or law say that while programs like Teach for America fill a need in the short term, educational leaders should be focused on improving training and working environments so that teachers will invest in long careers.

"My take is yes, we do need and want some number of teachers to be 'lifers,' for lack of a better word," said Doug McCurry, a co-chief executive of Achievement First, a non-profit charter operator with 25 schools in Connecticut, New York and Providence, R.I., where teachers spend an average of 2.3 years in the classroom. But, he said, he would be happy if "the majority of the teachers that walked in the door gave us five or seven really good teaching years and then went on to do something else." □

## Fewer US school districts promote junk food, soda

**MIKE STOBBE**

AP Medical Writer

**ATLANTA (AP)** — There's been a big shift in how many U.S. school districts take money from soda companies and ban junk food from vending machines, health officials say. A government survey found 44 percent of school districts banned junk food from vending machines last year, up from 30 percent in 2006.

It also found drops in how many districts took a cut of soft drink sales, received donations from soda companies, or allowed soda company advertising. Those are considered positive steps in helping the U.S. reduce the number of children who are overweight and obese.

But it's not clear to how much impact the changes are having. The overall proportion of U.S. children who are overweight or obese has been holding steady at around 17 percent, according to government statistics. Experts say that diet and exercise at home are at least as important as what kids are exposed to in school. "There are lots and lots of factors that go into obesity rates," said Nancy Brener, lead author of the government report on the study. She is a health scientist at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. □



**Laura Nishida-Myers greets a student at YES Prep, a charter school, in Houston, Aug. 22, 2013. The rapidly growing charter school movement is pushing to redefine the arc of a teaching career, where young, dedicated people work between two and five years before moving on. (Michael Stravato/The New York Times)**

figures now is a good time to explore his next step, including applying for a supervisory position at the school.

Dowdy is 24 years old, which might make his restlessness seem premature. But then, his principal is 28. As tens of millions of pupils

acceptable and, at times, even desirable.

Teachers in the nation's traditional public schools have an average of close to 14 years of experience, and public school leaders and policymakers have long made it a priority to reduce teacher turnover.

movement - with schools that are publicly financed but privately operated - is pushing to redefine the arc of a teaching career.

The notion of a foreshortened teaching career was largely introduced by Teach for America, which places high-achieving col-



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## US Financial Front:

# American consumer confidence inches closer to 5-year high



A shopper strolls past a storefront in downtown Ottawa, Ill. The private Conference Board reported growing optimism on US consumer confidence for August on Tuesday, Aug. 27, 2013. (AP Photo/NewsTribune, Genna Ord)

PAUL WISEMAN

AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) —

Americans' confidence in the economy inched closer to a 5 ½-year high on growing optimism that hiring and wages could pick up in coming months.

The Conference Board, a New York-based private research group, said Tuesday that its consumer confidence index rose to 81.5 in August. That's up from a revised reading of 81 in July. And it's just below the 82.1 reading in June, which was the highest since January 2008.

Consumers' income expectations, which fell earlier this year after a January tax hike, rebounded to the highest level in 2 ½ years, said Lynn Franco, director of the Conference Board's economic indicators.

Although consumers were more confident about the future, their assessment of the current economy dipped slightly in August.

"Consumer sentiment is holding steady, supported

by advances in stocks, solid job creation, and a broad-based recovery in the housing market," Jim Baird, chief investment officer at Plante Moran Financial Advisors, wrote in a research note.

Consumers' confidence in the economy is watched closely because their spending accounts for about 70 percent of U.S. economic activity.

After hitting bottom at 25.3 at the depths of the Great Recession in February 2009, the index has bounced back. But it has yet to get back to the 90 reading that signals a healthy economy.

Americans' confidence jumped in June on hopes that the job market was starting to turn around. The economy has created an average of 192,000 jobs a month this year, slightly ahead of last year's pace. And the unemployment rate fell last month to a 4 ½-year low of 7.4 percent. Still, unemployment remains painfully high four

years after the recession officially ended. And employers added just 162,000 jobs in July, the fewest in four months. That raised worries that the sluggish economy could slow any progress made earlier in the job market.

The U.S. economic recovery has been held back this year by tax hikes, federal spending cuts and weaker global growth. The economy expanded at just a 1.7 percent annual rate in the April-June quarter. Most economists expect that figure will be revised up to a 2.2 percent annual rate, mostly because of a jump in June exports.

The government issues its second estimate for sec-

ond-quarter growth on Thursday. Most analysts predict growth may pick up to about a 2.5 percent annual rate in the second half of the year.

Still, recent data suggest the July-September quarter is off to a weak start, leading some economists to trim their third-quarter forecasts. On Monday the government said orders for long-lasting U.S. factory goods fell sharply in July, in part because businesses cut back sharply on big purchases that signal investment plans.

And U.S. sales of newly built homes dropped 13.4 percent last month to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 394,000. □

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## Egypt Brotherhood leader denies 'terrorism' claim

**AYA BATRAWY**  
**SARAH EL DEEB**  
**Associated Press**

**CAIRO (AP)** — A fugitive leader of Egypt's Muslim Brotherhood has denied accusations his group is committing acts of "terrorism" following the coup that toppled the country's president. Mohammed el-Beltagy's address, which aired Tuesday, comes as the Brotherhood plans new demonstrations to defy a crippling security crackdown that has put most of its senior and mid-level leadership behind bars. Among those detained Monday was 25-year-old U.S. citizen Mohamed Soltan, the son of outspoken Brotherhood figure Salah Soltan, family and security officials said.

El-Beltagy, a former lawmaker, is wanted himself on accusations of inciting violence and has been hunted by authorities for nearly three weeks. In a videotaped message aired by Al-Jazeera Mubasher Misr, an affiliate of the Qatar-based broadcaster, el-Beltagy said that authorities were trying to turn a "political crisis" into a security problem by accusing his group of orchestrating a terrorism campaign. Egypt's media, almost uniformly anti-Brotherhood after the closure of Islamist television stations, have described the crackdown as a "war against terrorism." "Don't be fooled by these lies and deception that aim to label us with terrorism, violence, (and) killing ... at a

time when the hands of the coup regime are drowned in blood," el-Beltagy said. El-Beltagy went into hiding earlier this month after authorities violently broke up protest encampments held by supporters of President Mohammed Morsi, over-

ers attacked police stations, government buildings and churches. Hundreds of Brotherhood members, the group's top leaders and Morsi supporters were arrested, many accused of orchestrating and taking part in violence.

try. The elderly sheik is very close to the Brotherhood and has spoken out vehemently against the country's military chief who led the coup. The current bout of violence is the worst in Egypt's 2 1/2 years of turbulent transition. More than 1,000 people, mostly Morsi supporters, were killed in the raids and other violence since mid-August. Violence has waned in the past few days. An official in the Interior Ministry said Tuesday that 106 security personnel have been killed since Aug. 14 and that more than 900 have been wounded in violence, including soldiers and policemen. The official spoke on condition of anonymity in line with regulations.

In the latest round-up of Brotherhood supporters, authorities said they arrested Soltan and three others at the pro-Brotherhood Rassd Network News service's office in the Cairo suburb of Maadi. Also detained in the group arrest was the manager of the news service, a broadcaster and one of Rassd's founders. □



**A veiled Egyptian woman walks under graffiti against ousted President Mohammed Morsi in Cairo, Egypt, Tuesday, Aug. 27, 2013. A fugitive leader of Egypt's Muslim Brotherhood has denied accusations his group is committing acts of "terrorism" following the coup that toppled the country's president.**  
(AP Photo/Amr Nabil)

thrown July 3 by the military after days of mass protests against him. Hundreds died in the crackdown, including el-Beltagy's daughter. In retaliation, Morsi support-

Airport authorities also said Tuesday that well-known Egyptian cleric Yousef al-Qaradawi, based in Qatar, would be arrested upon entry to the coun-

## China says no Japan meeting at G-20

**BEIJING (AP)** — China on Tuesday ruled out a meeting between the Chinese and Japanese leaders at next month's Group of 20 summit in Russia, citing a festering territorial dispute and provocations by Tokyo. Japan's failure to "broaden its mindset, face historical facts and take concrete actions to remove obstacles" make a meeting between President Xi Jinping and Prime Minister Shinzo Abe impossible, Vice Foreign Minister Li Baodong was quoted as say-

ing by the official Xinhua News Agency. "Under such circumstances how can we arrange the kind of bilateral meeting as wanted by the Japanese side?" Li said. Tokyo has repeatedly called for dialogue to resolve the dispute, but has made no solid proposal for a Xi-Abe meeting on the sidelines of the St. Petersburg summit. The dispute over the uninhabited East China Sea islands escalated sharply last September after Japan's government bought them

from their private Japanese owners. Violent anti-Japanese protests broke out in China, and Beijing sent patrol ships to the area to assert its claim that they are Chinese territory. Li was quoted as saying that there is currently no possibility of resolving the dispute and repeating China's accusation that Japan is entirely to blame for the impasse. The tiny islands located north of Taiwan are called Diaoyu in China and Senkaku in Japan. They are also claimed by Taiwan. □



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# France 'ready to punish' Syria over gas attack

SYLVIE CORBET  
Associated Press

PARIS (AP) — French President Francois Hollande said Tuesday that his coun-

sible for gassing people in Syria.

"France is ready to punish those who took the heinous decision to gas innocents"

France's ambassadors. He did not elaborate.

"I have decided to increase our military support to the National Syrian Co-

he also said.

France, one of Europe's biggest military powers, has not specified what preparation it is taking for any possible international action against Syrian President Bashar Assad's regime.

But on Monday Hollande said time is running out for the Syrian regime and airstrikes are a possibility. "Everything will come into play this week," he told Le Parisien newspaper. "There are several options on the table, ranging from strengthening international sanctions to airstrikes to arming the rebels.

Hollande spoke with President Barack Obama on Sunday and told him France, like Britain, would support him in a targeted military intervention, according to the paper.

In a veiled allusion to difficulties in getting any strong action through the Security Council, Hollande said Tuesday that "international law must evolve with

the times. It cannot be a pretext to allow mass massacres to be perpetrated." He then went on to invoke France's recognition of "the responsibility to protect civilian populations" that the U.N. General Assembly approved in 2005.

Ultimately, said one French diplomat, the goal of any military action would be to both "dissuade and punish," change the balance of power on the ground in Syria, and even give Assad more reason to eventually come to the negotiating table. The diplomat spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the matter and because the president has not publicly announced specific plans.

Hollande said the "most appropriate response" should be made to the Syrian regime once "the main part" of the U.N. mission currently on the ground in Syria to collect evidence from last week's attack is finished. □



French President Francois Hollande delivers his speech during a conference with France's ambassadors, at the Elysee Palace, in Paris, Tuesday Aug. 27, 2013. Francois Hollande said France is prepared to take action against those responsible for gassing people in Syria.

(AP Photo/Kenzo Tribouillard/Pool)

try is prepared to take action against those respon-

in Syria last week, Hollande said at a conference with

alition," the main Syrian opposition group in exile,



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Indian minister for Social Justice and Empowerment Kumari Selja, left, escorts Chairman of ruling United Progressive Alliance and Congress party president Sonia Gandhi, right, as they walk out of Indian Parliament House during the debate on National Food Security Bill 2013, in New Delhi, India, Monday, Aug. 26, 2013.

(AP Photo)

## India:

# Sonia Gandhi discharged from hospital

**NEW DELHI (AP)** — Sonia Gandhi, the leader of India's ruling Congress Party and the country's most powerful politician, has been discharged from a hospital after falling ill during a debate in Parliament, the health minister said Tuesday.

Gandhi underwent a series of medical tests during the five hours she spent in the hospital late Monday and was then allowed to return home, Ghulam Nabi Azad

told journalists.

Gandhi, 67, had been suffering from fever for two days, but still decided to deliver Monday's parliamentary speech in support of a landmark bill that proposes to provide cheaper grain to more than 800 million across the country.

Gandhi felt unwell during the 9-hour long debate on the food security bill in the lower house of Parliament and was escorted to a hospital by her son Rahul and

other Congress party colleagues.

"She is perfectly fine. There is nothing to worry," Azad said. Doctors have advised her to rest for a few days, he said.

Gandhi is the Italian-born widow of slain former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi. After his death, she entered politics reluctantly but has led the Congress party to successive election triumphs in 2004 and 2009. □

## China arrests UK, US investigators

**JOE McDONALD**

**AP Business Writer**

**BEIJING (AP)** — Beijing is tightening control over trade in information that can help companies find their way through China's secretive business world.

On Tuesday, police announced the arrest of two corporate investigators, a Briton and an American who work in Shanghai, on charges of improperly selling personal information about Chinese citizens.

Peter Humphrey and Yingzeng Yu, a married couple, are part of an industry of investigators who help corporate clients screen potential partners and employees or watch for embezzlement and other employee misconduct.

"The opaque nature of the investigation and detention of the Humphreys is troubling at best and puts a serious chilling effect on legitimate efforts to investigate even benign, public information," said James Zimmerman, managing partner of the Beijing office of the law firm Sheppard Mullin Richter & Hampton.

Chinese leaders want the prosperity that comes from free-market competition but see control over information as a tool to protect the Communist Party's monopoly on power.

The government operates an extensive surveillance network to track China's public and limits access to data on companies and individuals. Since last year it has further narrowed what can be obtained.

Other companies that supply information already are under pressure.

In January, four Chinese employees of a unit of Dun & Bradstreet Corp. were sentenced to prison on charges of improperly buying personal data of Chinese citizens.

A string of Chinese companies have been hit by disclosures by investigators about possible financial misconduct that caused their share prices to plunge.

Possibly in response to that, regulations issued in February 2012 prohibit government agencies from disclosing financial or commercial information about a company without its permission.

That made it harder for companies to investigate potential partners or acquisition targets to find liabilities or conflicts of interest.

Known as "due diligence," it is a common practice in other countries.

Several dozen reports prepared by Humphrey and Yu for corporate clients contained information that "seriously violated the legitimate rights of citizens," the Shanghai police department said in a statement. It said they were formally arrested on Aug. 16. □

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## Amnesty International blasts UN's mission in Kosovo



Kosovo Serb villager Dragan Odalovic wipes the tombstone of his son Andrija Odalovic killed in Kosovo after the 1999 Kosovo war in the village of Staro Gracko on Tuesday Aug. 27, 2013.

( AP Photo/Visar Kryeziu )

**DUSAN STOJANOVIC**

**Associated Press**

**BELGRADE, Serbia (AP)**

— Amnesty International denounced the United Nations administration in Kosovo for failing to investigate the widespread abduction and killings of Kosovo Serbs in the aftermath of the 1998-99 war.

The rights group said in a report released Tuesday that the U.N. mission in Kosovo had failed to deliver justice to the relatives of the victims, despite being charged by the U.N. Security Council with protecting human rights in Kosovo. The U.N. assumed administration of the war-torn region after Serbia relinquished the control of most of Kosovo in 1999 when NATO chased its troops out of the region after a three-month bombing campaign that stopped a brutal crackdown against

separatist Kosovo Albanians.

About 1,800 people went missing during the war that left some 10,000 dead, mostly ethnic Albanians. Hundreds of Kosovo Serbs, who represent a minority in Kosovo, were abducted and most of them reportedly killed in revenge at-

tacks by ethnic Albanian militants after NATO-led troops were deployed in the former Serbian province and the U.N. took over its administration.

The U.N. passed over most of its police and judicial responsibilities in Kosovo to an EU mission in 2008 after Kosovo declared independence from Serbia.

The report — a rare look at the plight of Serbs in Kosovo immediately after the conflict — listed several cases when the U.N. administrators allegedly failed to investigate atrocities against them. It was released on the eve of a U.N. Security Council debate on Kosovo on 29 August.

The U.N.'s "failure to investigate what constituted a widespread, as well as a systematic, attack on a civilian population and, potentially, crimes against humanity, has contributed

to the climate of impunity prevailing in Kosovo," Sian Jones, Amnesty International's expert on Kosovo, said in a statement.

Dragan Odalovic, whose son was among 14 Kosovo Serbs killed in an ambush on a field during a harvest in June 1999 in a Kosovo village of Gracko, said the U.N. police never caught the culprits.

"On that day up to now the U.N. police and others took my testimony some 50 or 60 times as I was the only witness," he said on Tuesday. "Nothing has ever been discovered so far by the U.N."

There was no immediate reaction from the U.N. to the report. But, the U.N. Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo, or UNMIK, said after previous such accusations that it had faced problems with the law and order because of wide-

spread lawlessness in the wake of the war.

The Amnesty report said that for nearly a decade after the conflict, U.N. police and prosecutors "failed to initiate prompt, effective, independent, impartial and thorough investigations into many reports of enforced disappearances and abductions."

As a result, very few of those suspected of war crimes and crimes against humanity have been brought to justice in international or domestic courts, the report said.

Although the report focuses on the atrocities against Kosovo Serbs, Amnesty International said it has also conducted research which shows similar findings with regard to U.N. administration's failure to investigate kidnappings of ethnic Albanians by Serb security forces. □

## Officials: Taliban kills 12 Afghan civilians, aid workers

**RAHIM FAIEZ**

**Associated Press**

**KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)**

— Insurgents shot and killed 12 civilians in two separate incidents over the weekend, including six aid workers employed on government projects, officials said Tuesday. The bodies of six victims were found in the Gulran district of western Herat province, said Jamel Danish, media adviser for the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation.

Five were Afghan employ-

ees of the International Rescue Committee who had been kidnapped on Sunday, and the U.S.-based group said it was temporarily suspending operations. It has worked in Afghanistan since 1988. The sixth victim worked for the ministry.

"The IRC is devastated and grief-stricken by the deaths of our colleagues who were all working to make a better Afghanistan," IRC president George Rupp said in a statement.

President Hamid Karzai and

the United Nations office in Afghanistan also condemned the killings, which the U.N. said could be classified as a war crime. The Taliban regularly target government employees.

Danish said the six were kidnapped by the Taliban and killed after negotiations to free them failed. His ministry with help from international groups seeks to improve the lives of Afghans in remote parts of the country. Rohullah Samon, spokesman for eastern Paktia

province, said six unidentified civilians were also found Tuesday by a roadside. He had no other details.

In Kabul, a suicide bomber riding a bicycle was killed when his explosive went off prematurely, wounding a passerby, said Kabul deputy police chief Gen Mohammad Daoud Amin. He said it was unclear what the intended target of the bomber was in the area of downtown Kabul where the explosion took place. □



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## Cuba officials report 163 new cholera cases for year

**HAVANA (AP)** — Cuba has reported a cholera outbreak to international health monitors, with 163 new cases this year associated with three provinces. According to a bulletin by the Pan American Health Organization, island authorities reported that the cases were linked to Havana, Santiago and Camaguey provinces.

Patients who contracted the waterborne disease included 12 travelers from European and Latin American nations. There were no reported fatalities.

In Havana, the outbreak was traced to two food service centers where some food handlers were found to be infected with cholera without displaying any symptoms.

"The food outlets have since adopted appropriate sanitary measures," the Pan American Health Organization said.

Cuban state media announced last summer that cholera had sickened 417 people and killed three. It had been unheard of on



A man cools himself in water overflowing from a parked truck that delivers drinking water in Havana, Cuba. Cuba has reported a cholera outbreak to international health monitors, with 163 new cases this year associated with three provinces.

(AP Photo/Franklin Reyes)

the island for years. In January there was another report of 51 cases in Havana. There has been no word since then about the disease in official media such as Communist Party newspaper Granma. □

### Puerto Rico:

## \$2M allocated to fight citrus disease

**SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP)** — Puerto Rico's governor declared a state of emergency Tuesday and ordered the release of \$2

million to help agriculture officials fight a disease that has attacked citrus trees in the U.S. territory.

Gov. Alejandro Garcia Padilla said citrus greening has affected a large swath of the island's citrus crop, located primarily in the central region. The island produces citrus including oranges, lemons, limes and grapefruits.

Officials say the insect car-

rying the disease was spotted in Puerto Rico in 2001, but that actual signs of the disease were not discovered until 2009.

The disease causes trees to produce green, disfigured and bitter fruits. Once a tree is infected, it dies in a couple years and cannot be saved.

The disease has caused extensive damage in Florida as well. □

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With daughter Tess Mostert and son Boyd Mostert as witnesses on Adrie's behalf and brother Jeffrey Ham and best girlfriend Sabrina Loddo as Mirjam's witnesses, the wedding celebration took off with a commitment ceremony on the

beach at the Divi Resorts organized by the island's #1 wedding specialist team, Aruba Weddings For You, with lovely floral decorations by Koolman's flower-shop. Following the beach cer-

emony the love-birds and their friends enjoyed a great party and sumptuous dinner at Marandi, on the edge of the water, as the restaurant is one of their special places on the island, dancing the night away to the music of the

Equator band. Featured are the beautiful bride and groom - her dress was handmade by the Dutch designer Mary Borsato - and their guests, giving the newly-weds their blessings and their wishes for eternal happiness. □



## Westin's Pago Pago earns Wine Spectator's Award of Excellence



**PALM BEACH**—For the fourth year in a row, Westin's flagship restaurant, Pago Pago, has been acknowledged with Wine Spectator magazine's Award of Excellence. Worldwide, very few restaurants make the cut for this distinction, as those that qualify must meet a variety of premium standards. The entire staff is proud to earn this distinction again, as much pride is taken in the restaurant's wine list that must please a global palate of tastes for vari-

ous wine regions around the world, and must pair nicely with a diverse menu of prime U.S. steaks, fresh seafood, and Pacific Rim-inspired dishes.

Pago Pago is located in the main lobby of the Westin Resort & Casino, Aruba. For more information and to make reservations, call 586-4466.



## Family O'Neil honored at the Marriott Ocean Club

**PALM BEACH** - Recently the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring a very nice family of loyal and friendly Visitors of Aruba, at the Marriott Ocean Club, as Distinguished Visitors. The symbolic honorary title is

presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for 10-to-19 consecutive years. The honorees were Walter Sr. and Judith O'Neill and their son Walter Jr. and Patricia O'Neill, of Ocean Port



and Ocean Township, New Jersey. The honorees are loyal members of the Marriott Ocean Club and they love Aruba very much because of the friendly people, the weather, the beaches and the restaurants. They also love staying at the Marriott

Ocean Club because it's like being at their vacation "home-away-from-home." The certificates were presented by Ernest Giel representing the Aruba Tourism Authority together with Lisette Bouwman representing the Marriott Ocean Club. □

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*Megan Janer*

She is from Michigan. Her first time in Aruba, she is on her honeymoon, staying at Marriott Ocean Club. She loves the Aruban Beach and local food.

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This May 4, 2013 file photo shows Floyd Mayweather during a WBC welterweight title fight against Robert Guerrero, in Las Vegas.

Associated Press

## Mayweather in fine form for a fight

**TIM DAHLBERG**

**AP Sports Columnist**

**LAS VEGAS (AP)** — A rare series of storms had cooled the summer air to an almost tolerable level, though it was steamy as ever inside Floyd Mayweather Jr.'s gym just a few miles from the Vegas Strip.

With a couple of sparring partners in front of him late Monday afternoon, Mayweather turned up the heat even more.

"Right there, right there," he yelled at the first hapless pugilist to feel his wrath. "You can't get away. I'll hit you when I want to."

It didn't take Mayweather long to do just that. As the third of four rounds stretched to the 10-minute mark he connected with a rapid volley of punches, finishing it off with a left hook that rocked his opponent for the day, sending him stumbling across the ring.

All in a day's work, but there was still work to be done. Always is when it's Mayweather in training and especially now, less than three weeks before his fight with undefeated Mexican star Saul "Canelo" Alvarez.

Continued on Page 21

## Roger Federer easily wins 1st match

**RACHEL COHEN**

**AP Sports Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Roger Federer easily won his delayed first match at the U.S. Open on Tuesday, with the Swiss great defeating Grega Zemlja 6-3, 6-2, 7-5 in a matchup postponed from Monday night because of rain. The 17-time major champion needed just 93 minutes to beat the 62nd-ranked Slovenian, firing down 12 aces and 25 winners in a dominant display to erase memories of his last Grand Slam outing — a shock defeat to 116th-ranked Sergiy Stakhovsky in the 2nd round at Wimbledon. Federer is seeded seventh at Flushing Meadows, his worst since 2002. Jerzy Janowicz, who reached the semifinals at Wimbledon, was done in straight sets, too. But his U.S. Open is over.

The 14th-seeded Pole felt as if a knife were stabbing him in his right side every time he tried to serve. After hurting his lower back Saturday, he lost 6-4, 6-4, 6-2 to qualifier Maximo Gonzalez.

Ranked 247th, the 30-year-old Argentine hadn't won a main draw match on the ATP Tour since April 2011. "I couldn't jump," Janowicz said. "I couldn't make a service movement. It's still better than yesterday."

He had a painkiller injection Monday, which allowed him to rotate so he could hit his backhand. But he described his serve during his match as "a push." At one point in the third set, he even tried one underhand.

Janowicz took an injury timeout in the second set for a trainer to massage his back.

Janowicz had never been past the third round at a major tournament before his run at Wimbledon,



Roger Federer, of Switzerland, returns a shot to Grega Zemlja, of Slovenia, during the first round of the 2013 U.S. Open tennis tournament Tuesday, Aug. 27, 2013, in New York.

Associated Press

which ended with a loss to eventual champion Andy Murray. The combustible 22-year-old fell in the first round at Flushing Meadows last year in his only previous appearance in the U.S. Open.

He had 11 double-faults and 53 unforced errors Tuesday.

On the women's side, fourth-seeded Sara Errani posted a "double bagel," beating Olivia Rogowska 6-0, 6-0 in 51 minutes. The 151st-ranked Australian was a "lucky loser," falling in qualifying but making the main draw when Ayumi Morita withdrew because of injury.

Seventh-seeded Petra Kvitova weathered another tough U.S. Open match, needing three sets and nearly two hours to beat 92nd-ranked Misaki Doi. Kvitova won 6-2, 3-6, 6-1 on

a windy day at Arthur Ashe Stadium.

Kvitova has reached at least the semifinals at the other three major events; she has never made it past the fourth round at Flushing Meadows.

"I like big matches on the big stadium, but the people — it's too much crowds for myself, I think," she said. She's also struggled in the North American swing leading to the U.S. Open, but she made a breakthrough last year. Kvitova won two of those tournaments and reached the semifinals at another in 2012, then matched her longest run at the year's last Grand Slam tournament.

The final set Tuesday was closer than the score in this rare matchup of two lefties. After Kvitova went up a break at 2-0, Doi had

a chance to break right back but couldn't convert. Two years ago, Kvitova became the first reigning Wimbledon women's champion to lose her first U.S. Open match in the same season. She was in danger of another early exit Tuesday when she made 15 unforced errors in the second set.

But she's hardly fazed by three-set matches. Kvitova recently played six straight across three tournaments, winning four of them.

Doi, from Japan, fell to 0-4 against top 10 opponents. Players in action later Tuesday include top-seeded Novak Djokovic and two-time Australian Open champion Victoria Azarenka. Sixth-seeded Caroline Wozniacki, with boyfriend Rory McIlroy in the stands, held off qualifier Duan Ying-Ying to win 6-2, 7-5.

The 133rd-ranked Duan had a chance to serve out the second set at 5-3 in her Grand Slam debut. But the 2009 U.S. Open finalist broke back. Then Duan had a set point on Wozniacki's serve that she couldn't convert. Wozniacki broke serve in the next game, then staved off three break points to clinch the win.

No. 10-seeded Roberta Vinci, a quarterfinalist at Flushing Meadows last year, beat Timea Babos 6-4, 6-2. She's reached a career-high ranking this summer at age 30 after making the round of 16 at the French Open and Wimbledon.

No. 13-seeded Ana Ivanovic and 14th-seeded Maria Kirilenko got off to quick starts, each winning in under an hour. Ivanovic, the 2008 French Open champ, beat Anna Tatishvili 6-2, 6-0.

Continued on Page 20





# Woods withdraws from Begay's charity event

**VERONA, New York (AP)** — Tiger Woods has pulled out of a charity event for good friend Notah Begay because of his ailing back. The Notah Begay III Foundation Challenge said Monday night that Gary Woodland will replace Woods in the field Wednesday at Turning Stone Resort.

**Tiger Woods reacts to his tee shot on the 17th hole during the final round of The Barclays golf tournament on Sunday, Aug. 25, 2013, in Jersey City, N.J. Woods finished in a four-way tie for second place.**  
Associated Press

Woods said he felt stiffness in his back last week at The Barclays from a soft bed in his hotel. He said he suffered a back spasm during a seven-hole stretch at the end of the final round, and he dropped to his knees after one shot. Woods finished one shot behind Adam Scott. Woods has not said if he would play in the Deutsche Bank Championship, the second FedEx Cup playoff event that starts Friday on the TPC Boston. The tournament benefits the

Tiger Woods Foundation. Woods had to miss another event that supports his foundation, the AT&T National, two months ago because of an elbow injury. "While we're disappointed Tiger is unable to play in this year's event, the important thing for Tiger is to make sure he's 100 percent healthy and not risk further injuring himself," Begay said. Woods said he has spoken to Begay, his teammate at Stanford, and expressed his regrets at having to pull out. □

## Daniel Moreno wins 4th stage of Vuelta

**FISTERRA, Spain (AP)** — Daniel Moreno of Spain timed his final sprint perfectly to win the fourth stage of the Spanish Vuelta on Tuesday while Vincenzo Nibali of Italy overtook veteran American rider Christopher Horner to claim the overall leader's jersey. The 32-year-old Moreno, riding for Katusha, won in 4 hours, 37 minutes, 47 seconds after breaking away from the pack almost within sight of the finish line of the 189-kilometer (117-mile) ride from Lalin to Fistera at Spain's northwestern tip. Fabian Cancellara of Switzerland came second just ahead of Michael Matthews of Australia, with both riders finishing in the same time as Moreno. Nibali of Astana said he only learned he had overtaken the 41-year-old Horner as overall leader



**Daniel Moreno of Spain wins the fourth stage of the Spanish Vuelta, a 189-kilometer (117-mile) ride starting in Lalin and finishing at the Atlantic coast in Fistera, Spain, Tuesday, Aug. 27, 2013.**

Associated Press

when he reached his team's motorhome some distance from the finish. □

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# NFL will look at hits to knees



Houston Texans safety D.J. Swearingen (36) tackles Miami Dolphins tight end Dustin Keller (81) during the second quarter of a preseason NFL football game at Reliant Stadium on Saturday, Aug. 17, 2013, in Houston.

Associated Press

## AP Pro Football Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — The NFL will keep a close eye on hits to the knees of defenseless players this season, with the possibility of extending the rules protecting such players. If the league's competition committee finds enough evidence this season that hits to the knees are "becoming a problem," it could take action, chief of football operations Ray Anderson told The Associated Press on Tuesday. The committee could make a recommendation to the owners next March to prohibit direct hits to the knees of defenseless players. The owners would then vote on such a change. "We are always looking at plays that may elevate themselves and we do in-

clude in that category hits on defenseless players," Anderson said. "And certainly the hits to knees to players who have not had the opportunity to protect themselves or are not looking in the direction of where the hit comes from — we have had a couple hits whereby a player was hit below (or at) the knees." Currently, hits to the head and neck of defenseless players are outlawed. But two direct hits to the knee in preseason games that injured Miami tight end Dustin Keller and Minnesota defensive tackle Kevin Williams have drawn complaints from some players. Keller is out for the season with several torn knee ligaments. Williams has a hyperextended knee. □

## Federer wins

Continued from Page 18



Caroline Wozniacki, of Denmark, reacts after beating China's Ying-Ying Duan during the first round of the 2013 U.S. Open tennis tournament Tuesday, Aug. 27, 2013, in New York.

Associated Press

Kirilenko won 6-1, 6-1 against Yanina Wickmayer, a semifinalist at Flushing Meadows four years ago whose ranking has fallen to 57th. Christina McHale, a 21-year-old from Englewood Cliffs, N.J., snapped a five-match losing streak by beating 45th-ranked Julia Goerges 6-4, 6-3. McHale's ranking had slipped to 114th. On the men's side, Americans John Isner and Sam Querrey reached the second round. Isner, seeded 13th, beat Filippo Volandri of Italy 6-0, 6-2, 6-3. The 26th-seeded Querrey defeated Guido Pella of Argentina 7-6 (3), 4-6, 6-1, 6-2. Milos Raonic won his first Grand Slam match while seeded in the top 10. The Canadian defeated qualifier Thomas Fabbiano of Italy 6-3, 7-6 (6), 6-3. Petra Kvitova likes the calm of Wimbledon, where she won her only Grand Slam title in 2011.

The bustle of New York — not so much. And the city's major tournament has always bedeviled her. The seventh-seeded Czech weathered another tough U.S. Open match in the first round Tuesday, needing three sets and nearly two hours to beat 92nd-ranked Misaki Doi. Kvitova won 6-2, 3-6, 6-1 on a windy day at Arthur Ashe Stadium. "I like big matches on the big stadium, but the people — it's too much crowds for myself, I think," she said. Kvitova has reached at least the semifinals at the other three major events; she has never made it past the fourth round at Flushing Meadows. She's also struggled in the North American swing leading up to the U.S. Open, but she made a breakthrough last year. Kvitova won two of those tournaments and reached the semifinals at another in 2012, then matched her

longest run at the year's last Grand Slam tournament. "So I have good motivation to improve my results here," she said. The final set Tuesday was closer than the score in this rare matchup of two lefties. After Kvitova went up a break at 2-0, Doi had a chance to break right back but couldn't convert. Two years ago, Kvitova became the first reigning Wimbledon women's champion to lose her first U.S. Open match in the same season. She was in danger of another early exit Tuesday when she made 15 unforced errors in the second set. But she's hardly fazed by three-set matches. Kvitova recently played six straight across three tournaments, winning four of them. Doi, from Japan, fell to 0-4 against top 10 opponents. Later on Ashe, 17-time major champion Roger Federer will play his first-round

match originally scheduled for Monday night. His opener against 62nd-ranked Grega Zemlja of Slovenia was postponed by rain. Others in action Tuesday included top-seeded Novak Djokovic and two-time Australian Open champion Victoria Azarenka. No. 10-seeded Roberta Vinci, a quarterfinalist at Flushing Meadows last year, beat Timea Babos 6-4, 6-2. She's reached a career-high ranking this summer at age 30 after making the round of 16 at the French Open and Wimbledon. No. 13-seeded Ana Ivanovic and 14th-seeded Maria Kirilenko got off to quick starts, each winning in under an hour. Ivanovic, the 2008 French Open champ, beat Anna Tatishvili 6-2, 6-0. Kirilenko won 6-1, 6-1 against Yanina Wickmayer, a semifinalist at Flushing Meadows four years ago whose ranking has fallen to 57th. □



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## Mayweather

Continued from Page 18

It's a big fight, but all Mayweather fights are big. He's the undisputed pay-per-view king and the Sept. 14 matchup is so attractive that the pay-per-view price is a whopping \$74.95 for those watching in high definition. Though Mayweather's last fight in May against Robert Guerrero — for which he earned \$32 million — wasn't a huge box office smash, this one should make executives at Showtime and CBS feel better about the money they laid out for boxing's biggest draw.

Better yet, he's fighting for the second time in four months after not fighting more than once a year since 2007.

"I'm ready to perform and entertain, that's what it's all about," Mayweather said. "I'm a lot older now so the last five fights I have I want to go out with a bang."

The fight is the second in his six-fight deal with Showtime, which lured him from HBO to help sell cable subscriptions and build the network's boxing brand. He says the bouts will be the last of his career, though at the age of 36 he doesn't seem to have lost any of the reflexes or speed that have helped him win all 44 of his fights in a professional career that began following the 1996 Olympics.

What has changed is how Mayweather sells himself, even if he claims he hasn't changed. Ever since his release from a Las Vegas jail after serving 64 days on domestic abuse charges last year, Mayweather has been the model of politeness and civility — in sharp contrast to the bad-boy persona that made him such a big attraction over the years.



**This May 4, 2013 file photo shows Floyd Mayweather Jr. reacting after defeating Robert Guerrero by unanimous decision in a WBC welterweight title fight in Las Vegas. "I'm ready to perform and entertain, that's what it's all about," Mayweather said. "I'm a lot older now so the last five fights I have I want to go out with a bang."**

Associated Press

That's one reason why Showtime's All Access show on Mayweather-Alvarez seemed to fall a bit flat in the first episode. There were the requisite shots, of course, of Mayweather and Alvarez in face-offs and together on a tour promoting the bout, but there wasn't the drama of Mayweather's earlier fights when he could be seen yelling at his father or counting stacks of \$100 bills with his former buddy, 50 Cent. That sold pay-per-views to people who spent their money hoping to either see Mayweather win or get knocked out. But Mayweather seems to either have outgrown the part or simply doesn't want to play it anymore.

"What do you mean by image? My image has always been as an entertainer, but at home I'm a great father," Mayweather said. "There's no bad guy, that's an image the critics picked. My image is to make sure my kids get the best education and provide a comfortable life for

my family."

If the new Mayweather is a kinder and gentler sort outside the ring, he's changed some inside, too. His fights sometimes tended to become tedious affairs as he sought to win without getting hit, but in recent years he has changed his style somewhat and has become more aggressive and flat-footed.

It showed on Monday as he walked two sparring partners across the ring, banging away with left hooks and right hands while keeping up a steady stream of chatter. The short time between fights should be beneficial to Mayweather at his age, and he's already inside the 152-pound (69-kilogram) catch weight for the fight. "I got back into it so quick that I'm still sharp," he said. "I feel good, real good." Boxing fans should feel good, too, that Mayweather is taking on Alvarez, a 23-year-old who is unbeaten in 42 fights and holds a piece of the 154-pound title. □

## Dickey gets win, Jays beat Yankees



**Toronto Blue Jays starting pitcher R.A. Dickey pitches against the New York Yankees during the first inning of a baseball game in Toronto on Monday, Aug. 26, 2013.**

Associated Press

**TORONTO (AP)** — R.A. Dickey pitched into the seventh inning and Jose Reyes sparked Toronto's offense as the Blue Jays snapped a 10-game losing streak against the New York Yankees with a 5-2 victory on Monday.

AL Capsules  
Alex Rodriguez hit his 650th home run, a leadoff drive in the fifth, but the Yankees lost for the ninth time in 13 road games this month. Rodriguez is 10 homers away from tying Willie Mays for fourth on the career list, which would secure a \$6 million bonus for the third baseman.

Derek Jeter went hitless in his return to New York's lineup. Jeter, who had been out with a calf injury, finished 0 for 3 with a walk. Reyes walked and scored in the third, and doubled and scored in Toronto's three-run fifth as the Blue Jays beat the Yankees for just the second time in 14 meetings this season.

Dickey (10-12) allowed two runs, one earned, and six hits in 6 1-3 innings. Casey Janssen got three outs for his 24th save in 26 chances. New York right-hander Phil Hughes (4-13) allowed five

runs, four earned, and seven hits in 4 2-3 innings. He is 0-6 with a 5.84 ERA in his last nine starts.

**ATHLETICS 8, TIGERS 6**

**DETROIT (AP)** — Coco Crisp and Daric Barton each drove in two runs, leading Oakland past Miguel Cabrera and Detroit.

Cabrera hit his 43rd homer, bolstering his pursuit of another Triple Crown, but Barton had a tiebreaking RBI single in Oakland's two-run sixth inning. Crisp also had a solo homer during his three-hit performance.

A.J. Griffin (11-9) earned his first win since July 29 despite allowing four runs and seven hits in five-plus innings. The right-hander was 0-2 with a 3.47 ERA in his previous four starts.

Omar Infante and Victor Martinez also homered for the AL Central-leading Tigers, who had won three in a row. Martinez went 4 for 5 and Torii Hunter had two hits.

Barton's tiebreaking single in the sixth came against Jose Alvarez (1-4).

Grant Balfour allowed an unearned run in the ninth on Matt Tuiasosopo's grounder before finishing for his 33rd save. □





By: Dr Carlos Viana

A favorite dish of mine in a Japanese restaurant is a raw quail egg yolk on sea urchin eggs. A variable "cholesterol bomb", one of my colleagues called. Notice that the Japanese sushi chef throws away the white of the egg. A good thing, since raw egg whites should never be consumed. Egg whites contain substances that remove vitamins from your body and could possibly inhibit digestion of protein, and affect growth. Cooking the egg for just a few minutes destroys these and other harmful compounds.

The reason a myth has survived for years about the dangers of eating egg yolks is because one egg yolk contains about 213 milligrams of cholesterol. This is about the same amount as my other favorite food, olive oil that is also loaded with cholesterol. However, any clinical nutritionist will tell you that the different types of cholesterol are not the same. Olive oil, like egg yolks, both have a high content of monounsaturated fatty acids and antioxidative substances. In lay terms, both of these great foods are rich in HDL, the "good" cholesterol.

If you enjoy the convenience of taking a multivitamin to be sure you're getting enough nutrients, you should consider including soft boiled or poached eggs in your diet. They come close to having everything a natural multivitamin provides.

Eggs are low in sodium and are a good source of protein, riboflavin, Vitamin B12, Pantothenic acid, phosphorus, and selenium. Additionally, there are amino acids, the building blocks for muscle and a great source of lecithin.

In fact, the word "lecithin," comes from the Greek word "lekithos" meaning "egg yolk". Other foods that contain lecithin include: butter, peanuts, cauliflower, tomatoes, banana, oranges, lentils, oats, barley, corn, sesame seeds, flax seeds, whole wheat and human breast milk.

Notice I said, butter, not margarine. Actually, if you are worried about cholesterol, according to a Harvard Medical study, margarine may increase heart disease in women by 53% over eating the same amount of butter. Margarine contains up to 45 percent of artificially created unhealthy trans-fats.

No more fattening than margarine, butter has been in the diet for thousands of years so our bodies are used to digesting it. Besides lecithin, butter is a rich source of easily absorbed vitamin A, E, K, D and selenium, a powerful antioxidant. We use salt free to eliminate the harmful processed salt which is used as a preservative to help the butter last longer on the shelf. If you like the taste of salt, try adding your own natural sea salt, which still has some of the minerals left and is not chemically processed.

Even better is Clarified Butter or "Ghee" a form of butter found in the Indian section of your supermarket. Ghee can be made easily at home and

is butter which has the milk solids or fat removed. It has a high smoke point and is a safer, healthier choice for cooking than other fats or oils.

With people afraid to eat egg yolks, the richest source of choline found in modern diets comes from an additive called lecithin. Lecithin is most often added to foods as an emulsifier which helps keeps food blended. As a dietary supplement, I consider lecithin to be essential for everyone. In our clinic I see patient's daily suffering from fatigue, insomnia, kidney and bladder problems, high cholesterol levels, nerve-muscle problems, including cardiovascular disease, infertility, liver and gallbladder problems, anemia, and high blood pressure. Lecithin in your body keeps your cells functioning properly, allows your nerves to communicate with your muscles; and prevent the build-up of homocysteine in your blood. Homocysteine is a harmful compound that is associated with cardiovascular disease and osteoporosis. Since lecithin has fat-modifying effects, lecithin helps prevent fatty build-up in the liver. An important part of lecithin is choline. Since the 1930s, research has shown that choline is a component of every human cell. Lecithin can help control cholesterol levels. Because of its role in nerve-muscle function, lecithin has been used to help improve neuromuscular function in Alzheimer's disease and plays a critical role in memory functions and learning difficulties.

Lecithin supplementation is very important to babies, even while still in the

womb. Dietary deficiency of lecithin can provoke respiratory distress in newborns, and failure to thrive. In very young babies a continuing deficiency can produce impaired growth, and abnormalities in bone formation. Medical data on lecithin suggests that simply supplementing the diets of pregnant and nursing women with lecithin could affect their children's lifelong learning and memory. In adults, lecithin can boost cognitive function, diminish age-related memory decline, and reduce the brain's vulnerability to toxic substances.

Eggs are nutritious. They're nutrient dense which means that eggs provide a good proportion of needed nutrients for the calories they provide. Eating nutrient-dense foods is particularly important for children as well as older adults because their energy needs are less but their nutrient needs are high. Nutrient density is also important for anyone of any age who is trying to lose weight. One of the reasons for eating eggs is lecithin and supplementing your diet with a quality lecithin supplement give us a healthy boost. By the way, I recommend most of my patients take individual, natural supplements, like Vitamin C, Magnesium, Zinc and always Lecithin. However, if you prefer taking a multivitamin, make sure you are using a natural one. There is a difference between quality food based nutrients and cheaper, synthetic or artificial vitamins, dyes and preservatives.

Get The Point! Eggs and butter do not increase heart disease

risk in most people. A Harvard School of Public Health study found that healthy adults were able to eat an egg a day without increasing their risk of heart disease or stroke. Want help with a cholesterol problem or a healthier gall bladder, liver, brain or to improve the learning ability of your child? Come in so we can tailor a health program to your specific needs. Want to learn more about cooking your eggs the safest, healthiest way possible, join us for "Cooking Healthy with Dr. Carlos & Amy" – Call for details.

CARLOS VIANA, Ph. D. is an Oriental Medical Doctor (O.M.D.) having studied in Shanghai, China; a Board Cert. Clinical Nutritionist (C.C.N.), a fellow member of the Board Certified Association of Addiction Professionals (C.Ad.), the Chairperson of the Latin American Committee of the International Academy of Oral Medicine and Toxicology (IAOMT), a Rejuvenating Cell Therapist and specializes in Anti-Aging Medicine, has a weekly radio program, writes and lectures extensively. For information: VIANA NATURAL HEALING CENTER NV, Kibaima 7, Aruba, TEL: 585-1270, Web Site: [www.vianaheal.com](http://www.vianaheal.com)

Dr. Viana's Award Winning BOOK: Prescriptions from Paradise, Introduction to Bio-compatible Medicine – Available at local Bookstores, Hotel Gift shops and Boticas. Signed copies at Viana Healing Center, EBooks: Amazon kindle, Nook, iTunes check for Events at: [facebook.com/vianahealingcenter](https://www.facebook.com/vianahealingcenter).

# Eggs and Butter

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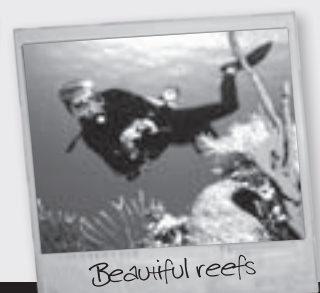
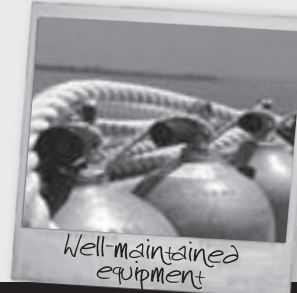


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# Exploring Google Glass through eyes of early users

MICHAEL LIEDTKE

AP Technology Writer

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) —

Geeks aren't the only people wearing Google Glass. Among the people testing Google Inc.'s wearable computer are teachers, dentists, doctors, hair stylists, architects, athletes and even a zookeeper.

Some 10,000 people are trying out an early version of Glass, most of them selected as part of a contest. The Associated Press spoke to Glass owners who have been using the device: Sarah Hill, a former TV broadcaster and current military veterans advocate, and Deborah Lee, a stay-at-home mom. Glass is designed to work like a smartphone that's worn like a pair of glasses. Although it looks like a prop from a science fiction movie, the device is capturing imaginations beyond the realm of nerds. The trio's favorite feature, by far, is the hands-free camera that shoots photos and video through voice commands. (Images can also be captured by pressing a small button along the top of the right frame of Glass.) They also like being able to connect to the Internet simply by tapping on the right frame of Glass to turn it on and then swiping along the same side to scroll through a menu. That menu allows them to do such things as get directions on Google's map or find a piece of information through Google's search engine. The information is shown on a thumbnail-sized transparent screen attached just above the right eye to stay out of a user's field of vision.

Among the biggest shortcomings they cited was Glass' short battery life,



In this Friday, July 26, 2013 file photo, Google Glass, a device which offers video recording, photographic, and Internet access capabilities while worn like a pair of glasses, rests on a table in the offices of web development firm Whiteboard in Chattanooga, Tenn. Whiteboard was selected to beta test the device in Google's "If I had Glass" campaign after they tweeted that they would use the device to record video of daily life in rural Cambodia.

Associated Press

especially if a lot of video is being taken. Although Google says Glass should last for an entire day on a single battery charge for the typical user, Hill said there were times when she ran out of power after 90 minutes to two hours during periods when she was recording a lot of video.

Glass' speaker, which relies on a bone conduction technology, also is inadequate, according to the testers the AP interviewed. They said the speaker, which transmits sound through the skull to allow for ambient noise, can be difficult to hear in any environment other than a quiet room.

"If you are out in the street or anywhere else where there is any noise, it's impossible to hear," Lee said. "That has been challenging because there is no way to adjust it. If you could adjust the sound, I think it would solve a lot of problems."



In this Wednesday, May 29, 2013 file photo, Sarah Hill, a Google Glass contest winner, of Columbia, Mo., tries out the device, in New York. "This is like having the Internet in your eye socket," Hill said. "But it's less intrusive than I thought it would be. I can totally see how this would still let you still be in the moment with the people around you."

Associated Press

Hill, 42, became a Glass evangelist shortly after she picked up the device at Google's New York offices in May.

"This is like having the Internet in your eye socket," Hill said. "But it's less intrusive

than I thought it would be." The liberating aspects of Glass came into sharper focus for Hill as she took a cab to the airport for her flight home. During the taxi ride, she began a video call on Google Hangout.

As the cab was preparing to drop her off at the curb, Hill was about to end the call so she could carry her baggage.

"That's when it hit me that, 'Holy cow, I don't have to cut the call off,'" Hill recalled. "I could continue talking because I didn't have to hold a phone. So I carried on a conversation through the airport and people were staring at me like, 'What is that thing on your face?'" Hill became accustomed to the quizzical looks as she wore Glass to community gatherings, restaurants and shopping excursions. The encounters usually led to her offering others to try on Glass, and most were impressed, Hill said. Hill has already used Glass to provide a tour of the World War II memorial in Washington, D.C., for veterans who were too old or ill to make the journey themselves. Lee, has been relying on Glass mostly to capture precious moments with her 9-month-old daughter, Maddie. Lee, 34, told Glass to take the pictures as she tickled and kissed her daughter's tummy. "Obviously, you can't do that with a phone in your hand, so I am totally loving Glass," Lee said. "It has really been great."

Glass also allowed Lee to set up live video sessions with her parents so they could see Maddie eat her first solid food just as she saw it. "I am capturing all these tiny moments that are really exciting with a baby," Lee said.

Glass' ability to take hands-free pictures and video has raised concerns among privacy watchdogs who believe the device will make it easier to secretly record the activities of other people. □



# US home prices rise strong 12.1% in June

C. S. RUGABER

AP Economics Writer

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — U.S. home prices rose 12.1 percent in June from a year earlier, nearly matching a seven-year high. But month-over-month price gains slowed in most markets, a sign that higher mortgage rates may weigh on the housing recovery. The Standard & Poor's/Case-Shiller 20-city home price index slowed only marginally from May's year-over-year gain of 12.2 percent, the fastest since March 2006. And all 20 cities posted gains from the previous month and compared with a year ago, according to the report released Tuesday.

Home prices in Las Vegas soared 24.9 percent from a year earlier to lead all cities. Purchases by investors have helped drive that increase.

Other cities hit hard by the housing bust also posted stunning gains in the past year. Prices have jumped 24.5 percent in San Francisco and nearly 20 percent in both Los Angeles and

Phoenix.

Still, 14 of the 20 cities posted smaller gains in June compared with May. That's unusual considering June is the middle of the summer buying season.

And in cities less affected by the housing crisis, gains have been more modest. Prices in New York and Cleveland are about 3 percent higher than a year earlier. Prices rose 5.7 percent in Washington, D.C. and 6.7 percent in Boston. Most economists expect the overall index to slow to single digits in the coming months, which they see as a more sustainable pace.

"The fundamentals of the housing market are solid," said Gus Faucher, senior economist at PNC Financial Services. "Despite higher prices and mortgage rates, affordability is still much better than it was prior to the housing crash....Many households that put off buying a home in recent years are now getting back into the market, boosting demand. Lending standards for mortgage loans are easing

somewhat."

The index covers roughly half of U.S. homes. It measures prices compared with those in January 2000 and creates a three-month moving average. The June figures are the latest available. They are not adjusted

a limited number of homes have been available for sale. That combination has led to sharp price gains.

But mortgage rates have climbed more than a full percentage point since May. The increase has already slowed sales of new



An "Open House" sign is displayed in front of a new home being readied for sale in Little Rock, Ark. U.S. home prices rose 12.1% in June 2013 from a year earlier, nearly matching a seven-year high. (AP Photo/Danny Johnston, File)

for seasonal variations, so the monthly gains reflect more buying activity over the summer.

Steady job gains and low mortgage rates have encouraged more Americans to buy homes. And even as demand has risen,

homes in July. And economists expect it could drag re-sales lower in August.

Mortgage rates began to rise after Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke first signaled that the Fed might reduce its bond purchases later this year. □

# Tiffany's 2Q profit rises; China helps

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Tiffany & Co.'s fiscal second-quarter net income climbed a stronger than expected 16 percent, driven by strong sales in China. The high-end jewelry company also boosted its full-year earnings forecast.

Its shares rose more than 2 percent in premarket trading.

Tiffany is considered a bellwether for the luxury market.

Its performance is encouraging, given that many retailers have reported disappointing profits and lowered expectations for the rest of the year. Several upscale retailers including Saks Inc., Ralph Lauren Corp. and Coach Inc., reported weak sales during the spring and early summer period.

The company, known for its blue boxes, earned \$106.8 million, or 83 cents per share, for the period ended July 31. A year earlier it earned \$91.8 million, or 72 cents per share.

Revenue for the New York company increased 4 percent to \$925.9 million from \$886.6 million, helped by strong performances from its statement and fine jewelry products.

Analysts polled by FactSet predicted lower earnings of 74 cents per share on higher revenue of \$941.5 million.

Shares of Tiffany gained \$1.89, or 2.3 percent, to \$83.56 in premarket trading about two hours ahead of the market opening.

Asia-Pacific sales climbed 20 percent, led by strong results in China. European sales rose 11 percent, buoyed by strength in the U.K. and most of continental Europe. In the Americas, sales edged up 2 percent led by better sales at its flagship store in New York. Japan's sales were dragged down by a weaker yen, falling 14 percent. On a constant currency basis, sales climbed 7 percent on increased sales of engagement and higher-end jewelry. □

# Billabong brand value collapses, posts giant loss

**SYDNEY (AP)** — Billabong reported a \$769 million annual loss Tuesday that

reflects a collapse in the value of its once hot surf and street fashion brands.

The company said it marked down the value of its assets by Australian

dollars 867 million (\$776 million). That write-off resulted in a net loss of AU\$859.5 million (\$769 million) for the financial year ended June 30.

The company has staggered through a series of business shake-ups and failed buyout offers. It says it is in the final stages of debt refinancing negotiations that will allow the business to rebuild.

Billabong's global sales for the year fell 13 percent to AU\$1.34 billion reflecting store closures, Europe's weak economy and the fading allure of its brands.

The Billabong and other brands owned by the retailer were valued at AU\$90 million in the company's financial statements released Tuesday, down from AU\$614 million two years earlier.

The company's shares closed down 5.3 percent in Sydney. □



Featured is a promotional handout photo for Billabong fashion and sportswear. Billabong reported a \$769 million annual loss Tuesday over an adjustment in value. (Handout Photo)



## Fewer US airline jobs as carriers trim their ranks

**The Associated Press**

Airline employment has dropped from last summer because of job cuts at American Airlines and regional carriers that use smaller planes. The U.S. Department of Transportation said Tuesday that airlines employed the equivalent of 381,441 workers in June, down 2.4 percent from the same month last year. It's the 10th straight month of decline compared with a year earlier. The DOT said that American cut about 5,400 jobs, or 8.4 percent of its workforce, as it slashed costs during bankruptcy. American had the equivalent of 59,163 full-time workers in June. American parent AMR Corp., which is trying to merge with US Airways, has recently returned to profitability. This week it reported a record one-month adjusted profit of \$352 million for July. The airline plans to hire 1,500 entry-level flight attendants to replace some of the roughly 2,200 experienced ones who took severance offers to leave last year. While American cut jobs, its American Eagle regional subsidiary added about 1,300 jobs or 13.5 percent. But most regional carriers, which contract with bigger airlines to operate short-haul flights under brands such as United Express and Delta Connection, reduced jobs as high fuel costs made many 50-seat jets too expensive to fly. □

## Mounting tensions with Syria sink US stocks

**KEN SWEET**

**AP Markets Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Fears of an escalating conflict in Syria rippled across financial markets on Tuesday, sinking stocks, lifting gold and pushing the price of oil to the highest in a year and a half. The increas-

age fell 170.33 points, or 1.1 percent, to 14,776.13, the lowest in two months.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index lost 26.30 points, or 1.6 percent, to 1,630.48 and the Nasdaq composite fell 79.05 points, or 2.2 percent, to 3,578.52.

"The law of unintended

mostly escaped the selling. The impact wasn't just in stocks. Gold prices advanced and government bond prices jumped because traders see those investments holding their value better in times of uncertainty. Gold rose \$27, or 2 percent, to \$1,420 an

ruary 2012. "People worry about this becoming a worst-case scenario and turning into a regional conflict," said Bill Stone, chief investment strategist at PNC Asset Management. Energy prices dragged down the airline industry on concerns that higher oil prices could lead to higher fuel costs. United Continental Holdings, the world's largest airline by revenue, dropped \$2.15, or 7.2 percent, to \$27.71 and Delta Air Lines lost \$1.16, or 5.7 percent, to \$19.11.

Stone said oil prices could start weighing on consumer spending down the road, but it is still too early to gauge the longer-term impact. In corporate news, discount shoe seller DSW jumped \$6.43, or 7.9 percent, to \$87.75 after the company reported an adjusted profit of 97 cents per share, easily beating analysts' estimate of 80 cents per share, according to FactSet.

J.C. Penney fell 18 cents, or 1.3 percent, to \$13.17 after the company's biggest investor, Bill Ackman, said he plans to sell his entire stake in the discount department store chain.

The tensions with Syria overshadowed two positive reports on the economy. The Conference Board said its consumer confidence index rose to 81.5 in August, up from 80.3 the month before. Economists had expected 79, according to FactSet. □



**Trader Stephen Mara, center, works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange, Tuesday, Aug. 27, 2013. Worries about a potential military strike against Syria dragged down the U.S. stock market for the trading day.**  
(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

ing possibility of U.S. military strikes raised worries on Wall Street that energy trade in the region could be disrupted, raising fuel costs for consumers and business. "If Syria becomes drawn out and becomes a long-term issue, it's going to show up in things like gas prices," said Chris Costanzo, investment officer with Tanglewood Wealth Management. The Dow Jones industrial aver-

consequences and the history of previous military interventions in the region is not a recipe for political and economic stability," said Neil MacKinnon, global macro strategist at VTB Capital.

The sell-off in U.S. stocks was broad. All 10 industry sectors in the S&P 500 index were in the red, and only 31 of the index's 500 stocks rose. Utilities and other high dividend-paying stocks

ounce while the yield on the benchmark U.S. 10-year Treasury note fell to 2.71 percent from 2.79 percent.

While Syria itself has little oil, traders feared an intervention in Syria could cause further instability in the Middle East and possibly disrupt the flow of oil from the region. Oil surged \$3.09, or 2.9 percent, to close at \$109.01 a barrel, the highest closing price since Feb-

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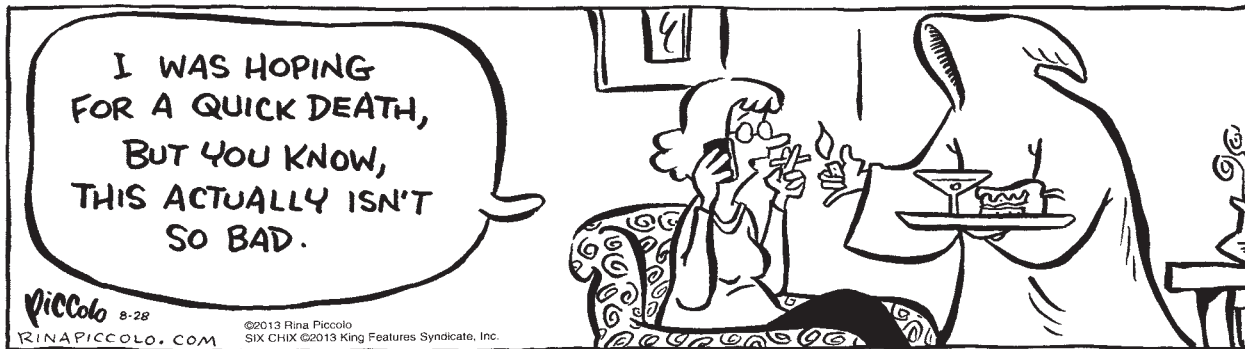
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## Conceptis Sudoku

	2	6	4	5	7			
			9			1	5	7
			3			6		4
	3						4	1
9							6	8
8							5	
	7					3		
		5			9			
			2	8				

Difficulty Level ★★

8/28

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

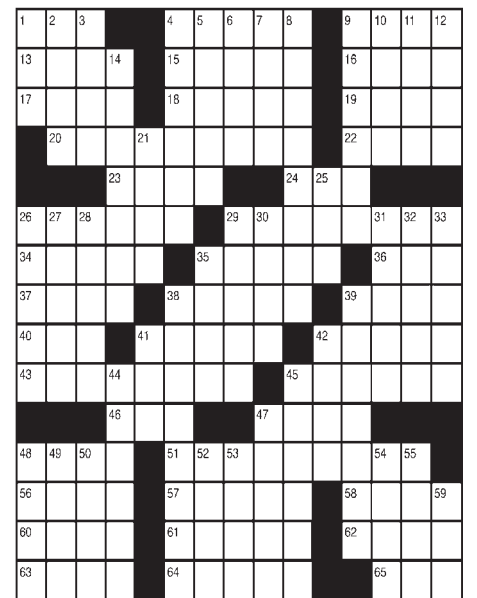
9	1	3	4	8	6	7	5	2
7	8	4	5	2	1	9	3	6
2	5	6	3	7	9	1	8	4
1	4	5	2	9	3	8	6	7
6	9	8	7	1	4	3	2	5
3	7	2	8	6	5	4	9	1
4	3	9	1	5	2	6	7	8
5	6	7	9	4	8	2	1	3
8	2	1	6	3	7	5	4	9

## ACROSS

- eBay offer
- Burn with liquid
- Murdered
- Secondhand
- Mid-afternoon hour
- Mount St. Helens' output
- Delight
- Sand ridges
- Vase-shaped jug
- Wipe out
- Travelers' stops
- Secure with a key
- Old cloth
- Take
- Snide remarks
- Be generous
- Window glasses
- Pale
- Joints closest to the waist
- Cooked in oil
- Smart
- Go wrong
- Roaring beasts
- Famous Italian poet
- Tangiest
- No \_\_\_; not any more
- Japan's dollar
- Shortly
- Amphibian
- Advanced degree
- Pork cut
- Creek
- Cots and cribs
- Qualified
- Range
- Thus
- Nuisance
- Remained optimistic
- Fellows

## DOWN

- Annoy
- \_\_\_ of Wight
- Doe or buck
- No-nonsense
- Credit card alternative



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

8/28/13

## Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

ACME	PEEKS	SLOW
RHEA	RESET	STONE
MISS	ALONE	EVEN
SCHISMS	NEATEST	
ELS	SERBS	
FUSSY	ALL	BOARD
UNIT	PIE	MONROE
DIE	TIMEOUT	DAN
GOVERN	VIM	NODS
ENEMY	MEL	HORSE
ISLES	POI	
CLINTON	MAESTRO	
RUBE	OTTER	IRON
AKIN	KARAT	LIST
BEST	SLATS	YOYO

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8/28/13

- |                               |                              |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 39 Aspirant; one with a dream | 50 Norman Rockwell paintings |
| 41 Whopper                    | 52 Hold ___; save            |
| 42 Entryway                   | 53 Clippety-___              |
| 44 Young swan                 | 54 Semester or quarter       |
| 45 Plundered                  | 55 Rim                       |
| 47 Martin or Allen            | 59 Male child                |
| 48 Tent opening               |                              |
| 49 Regal vestment             |                              |



# First shots are fired after debate on UK's badger cull

**ALAN COWELL**  
© 2013 New York Times

**LONDON** - The sharpshooters came by night, with high-powered rifles and cages. Their foes came, too, with candles and masks and bright yellow slickers.

Britain's contentious badger cull, a trial limited to two broad tracts of countryside that is designed to kill 5,000 badgers over the next six weeks, was underway. And so was the campaign among badger lovers to stop it.

For months, the two sides have sparred. Farmers supporting the cull say badgers spread lethal bovine tuberculosis that decimates herds of cattle. The opponents maintain that there is no scientific proof that culling, which they call inhumane, will help.

But as the nation awoke Tuesday to news that the cull had started in a broad area of Somerset and was to move on to parts of Gloucestershire, what seemed so especially English about the duel was the

intensity of the passions that animals arouse on both sides. Similar emotions flowed in the struggle over a ban on hunting foxes with dogs, which was enacted in 2005. Then, as now, the rival camps divided on which animal they favored most. "We understand passions run high," said Peter Kendall, the president of the National Farmers' Union. "But we'd ask them to remember not just the 5,000 badgers we're talking about culling, but the 38,000 cattle slaughtered" when herds were found to be infected with bovine tuberculosis.

Not only that, he said, there was also "the emotional damage this disease does to farmers and their families."

David Barton, a farmer in Gloucestershire, said he had lost a third of his cattle to the disease over the past two years. "These are animals I know. They have characters. And I hear people being very passionate about badgers, and I can empathize with them. But

they're not animals they deal with on a day-to-day basis," he told the BBC.

Protesters camping out in Somerset have said they would do what they could to disrupt the cull, during which farmers are licensed to hire trained sharpshooters to kill free-running badgers as well as animals trapped in cages.

Since badgers are nocturnal animals, the collision of protesters armed with flashlights and marksmen armed with rifles will mostly take place in the dark, making it potentially perilous.

On the first night, protesters acknowledged, the victory went to those on the hunt. "We always knew the first night would be tricky," an activist identified only as Carla told The Press Association news agency. □

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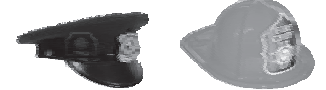
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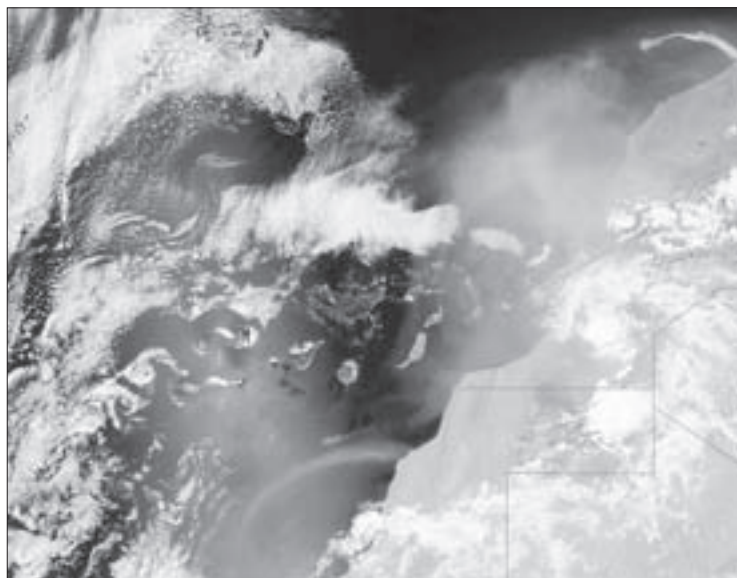
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In this Aug. 19, 2013 satellite image provided by the NASA Goddard MODIS Rapid Response Team, the Aqua satellite captures African dust blowing over the eastern Atlantic Ocean, approaching the Canary Islands.

Associated Press

**ANDREA RODRIGUEZ**

Associated Press

**HAVANA (AP)** — Each summer, microscopic dust particles kicked up by African sandstorms blow thousands of miles (kilometers) across the Atlantic to arrive in the Caribbean, limiting airplane pilots' visibility to just a few miles and contributing to the suffering of asthmatics trying to draw breath.

The phenomenon has been around as long as there's been sand in the Sahara Desert. But it's attracting ever more attention from regional scientists who say the clouds have grown, even if there's no global consensus on the issue.

In recent days and weeks a particularly large cloud dusted eastern Caribbean islands, made for hazy skies and intense, tangerine-tinted sunsets off Havana, drifted over Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula and was detected as far away as Wyoming. In satellite images provided by NASA, the enormous, smoky clouds can be seen wafting westward from Africa covering hundreds of square miles. From the ground, they can bring a faint haze.

While the clouds have mostly been treated as a meteorological curiosity by TV newscasts, scientists say periodic masses of dust may have important climactic consequences, even hindering hurricane formation to some degree. NASA has been sending unmanned drones into tropical storms this year to study the phenomenon.

Experts say particulate matter found in the clouds may also be cause for health concerns, and are calling for more study to understand their potential impact.

"It is a matter of great magnitude, interest and importance for health," said Braulio Jimenez-Velez, a specialist in molecular and environmental toxicology at the University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez, who is researching the issue.

African dust has prompted two health alerts this year in Puerto Rico for asthma sufferers and people with allergies, and the Dominican Republic also issued a lower-level warning.

Airborne particulate matter is connected to respiratory disease worldwide, usually among people with existing problems such as

# African dust clouds worry Caribbean scientists



In this Aug. 21, 2013 photo, people look out at the Havana skyline from Morro Castle, in Havana, Cuba.

Associated Press

asthma. Parts of the Caribbean, such as Puerto Rico, have high asthma rates. However, no direct link between African dust and higher rates of asthma or lung cancer has been established.

The phenomenon is similar to the giant dust storms that paint the skies yellow in Asian metropolises and can travel all the way to the U.S. West Coast — only the African clouds produce even more dust. A 2011 study in Atmospheric Chemistry and Physics estimated that North Africa is behind more than 70 percent of global dust emissions. Charles Darwin may have suspected as much back in 1832, when he collected the grime that caked the HMS Beagle at the Cape Verde islands.

"The dust falls in such quantities as to dirty everything on board. ... It has often fallen on ships when several 100, and even more than 1,000 miles from the coast of Africa," Darwin wrote. Analysis showed microorganisms and plant silica in his sample.

Since then, increasing human activity has changed the composition of the clouds.

Scientists say they contain trace amounts of things like metals, microorganisms, bacteria, spores,

pesticides and fecal matter, though there's no evidence that the quantities are enough to pose a threat. Joseph M. Prospero, professor emeritus of marine and atmospheric chemistry at the University of Miami, said African dust sampled in Barbados also had elevated levels of arsenic and cadmium.

"The specific impact on health is not known here or anywhere else. It has been extremely difficult to link specific particle composition to health effects," said Prospero, lead author of a paper on the dust to be published in September by the bulletin of the American Meteorological Society. "So it cannot be said what effect all this dust has, but there is reason for some concern."

Eugenio Mojena of Cuba's Institute of Meteorology said the particles are believed to originate in the semi-arid Sahel region south of the Sahara Desert, where farmers raise livestock and employ chemical fertilizers and pesticides.

"Today's dust is not the same as what Darwin studied," Mojena said. Before, "it didn't have pesticides or herbicides."

Some experts worry iron in the clouds may pose a threat to coral by feed-

ing populations of algae and spores that damage it, though it's still a subject of debate. The clouds can also complicate air traffic by reducing visibility to less than 3 miles, said Jason Dunion, a researcher at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. On the flip side, the clouds may inhibit the formation of tropical cyclones in the Caribbean.

Prospero said lower rainfall in West Africa presumably causes more dust, which reduces sunlight, lowers water temperatures and cuts evaporation, all factors in cyclonic formation.

While experts disagree about the changes in the dust clouds over the decades, all agree this year's cloud was remarkable.

Mojena said the dust arriving in Cuba has risen 10-fold in the last 30 years after severe droughts in northern Africa, though Omar Torres, a specialist in atmospheric physics at the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center in Maryland, said satellite studies since 1980 do not show increased Sahara dust emissions beyond normal seasonal variability.

Even so, "this year's advancement all the way to Wyoming was totally unexpected," Torres said. "I never saw anything like that in recent years." □

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# Bass says no to an 'N Sync reunion, was queasy

JOHN CARUCCI  
Associated Press

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Don't get your heart set on anything more than the 90-second 'N Sync reunion seen on the MTV Video Music Awards. It was their first performance together in 11 years — and the last time they'll do it, at least for a while.

"It would be lovely to do it, but we got nothing planned," Lance Bass told The Associated Press between breaks while doing his Sirius XM show "Dirty Pop with Lance Bass."

Part of the reason is that Justin Timberlake begins his solo tour this fall, and the closest Bass says he'll get to the stage is a seat in the audience.

"Who knows what will happen when he's off tour. It's simply not part of the conversation right now.

We just focused on that one performance," Bass said.

Bass, along with fellow boy-band mates Joey Fatone, Chris Kirkpatrick and JC Chasez joined Timberlake, who was already performing.

The guys wanted to do something special for Timberlake for receiving The Michael Jackson Vanguard Award. It's the VMA equivalent of a lifetime achievement award.

"We had to perform in the middle of the arena, so there was no way of getting us out there without being seen. So they dressed us in big ol' hoodies to pretend we were the stage hands.

So we would push out the stage and do all the stage hand stuff until we got to the area and hid out beneath a staircase," Bass said. "That was my favorite part."

Bass said just before they stopped performing, he felt queasy from nerves.

As for the show, Bass shared his view on the evening's



Justin Timberlake, center, winner of the video vanguard award poses backstage with, from left, JC Chasez, Lance Bass, Joey Fatone and Chris Kirkpatrick of 'N Sync at the MTV Video Music Awards on Sunday, Aug. 25, 2013, at the Barclays Center in the Brooklyn borough of New York. Associated Press

most controversial performance, when Miley Cyrus stripped down to a nude bikini, erotically grinded with Robin Thicke, and made suggestive gestures with a foam hand with a pointed finger.

The singer said his young nieces and nephews watched the VMA's for the first time to finally see their uncle perform in 'N Sync. "I didn't know I had to warn them that their little Hannah Montana was going to

be naked and humping a finger," Bass said in shock.

"I think she shocked a lot of her younger fans, especially the parents, who might not be so happy with her thing and she's just being Miley," Bass said. □

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**ORANJESTAD-** Benjamin Petrocchi, a true native Aruban started the newest export product of Aruba, locally produced hand rolled cigars called "Aruhiba". These cigars are produced and cultivated in Aruba. Petrocchi always had a interest in the cigar business and has also sold Premium Cuban Cigars, and now he is growing his own tobacco crops. After many attempts and trips to Santo Domingo and Cuba, he started his own production and cultivation of Aruhiba Cigars in Aruba. The whole process took him 10 years to perfect. Petrocchi dedication to the cigars is important for the moulding and process of making a perfect cigar which takes a long time. Their handmade cigar box is specially designed with their "Aruhiba" logo. Petrocchi considers Aruhiba as a promotion for Aruba through its fine cigars. The company sells Aruhiba to the international markets as well. With any purchase of \$20 and up you receive a free "Aruhiba" cigar or ask for their gift box of 5 cigars get 1 FREE for only \$37. They open from Monday to Saturday from 9 am till 6:30 pm and on Sundays from 9 am to 1 pm. Aruhiba cigars are now available at the gift stores in your resort and at well-known cigar stores. Aruhiba gift boxes are now available at Dufry Shop at the Airport.



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## Michael Buble, Luisana Lopilato welcome baby boy

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Michael Buble is a father.

The pop singer posted a picture of his wife, actress Luisana Lopilato, and their son Noah on his Instagram account Tuesday. Buble's representative confirmed the birth.

Lopilato gave birth to the couple's first child early Tuesday in Vancouver, Canada.

The 37-year-old Canadian singer and the 26-year-old Argentine actress were married in 2011. The couple met in 2009 during a South American concert tour.

Buble is a Grammy-winning pop singer who has sold millions of albums, including "Crazy Love" and 2011's "Christmas." Lopi-



In this April 28, 2013 file photo, Canadian singer Michael Buble participates in the Academy of Television Arts & Sciences Presents "An Evening With Michael Buble" at the Wadsworth Theatre in Los Angeles, California.

Associated Press

lato made her name as a model and in Argentine sitcoms and soap operas. □

## '42' actor Boseman to play James Brown in biopic

**NEW YORK (AP)** — After bringing the history-making U.S. baseball player Jackie

Robinson to the big screen, Chadwick Boseman is going to try another icon:



Actor Chadwick Boseman, right, is seen Sunday, April 14, 2013 during the second half of the NBA basketball game between the Indiana Pacers and the New York Knicks in New York.

Associated Press

James Brown.

Boseman has been cast to play the Godfather of Soul in a planned biopic by "The Help" director Tate Taylor. The film from Universal Pictures and Imagine Entertainment is currently untitled. Mick Jagger and Brian Grazer are among the producers.

The project has been in development for years, with various actors and directors attached. It's set to finally begin shooting this year in the U.S.

In an interview Monday with The Associated Press, Taylor said of the great soul singer: "Those are big shoes to fill." □

## Robinson pays tribute to Motown's chief of charm

**JEFF KAROUB**  
Associated Press

**DETROIT (AP)** — She didn't sing a note or write a lick of a lyric, but Smokey Robinson contends that Maxine Powell was as essential to Motown Records' operation as the legendary label's songwriters, producers and musicians.

Powell was in charge of the artists' personal development. And Robinson, a bard of the American romantic songbook and one of the chief architects of "the Motown sound" produced in Detroit from the late 1950s to the early '70s, paid tribute to Powell on Monday night during an invitation-only event at the former Hitsville, U.S.A., studio in Detroit that now serves as the Motown Historical Museum.

"She was such an important, integral part of what we were doing here at Motown," said Robinson, who has upcoming Michigan gigs in the Detroit area and Grand Rapids and is working on an album of duets with various artists due out next year. "It didn't matter who you became during the course of your career — how many hits you had, how well your name was known around the



In this photo provided by the Motown Museum, Smokey Robinson, right, speaks at an event honoring Maxine Powell, left, Monday, Aug. 26, 2013, at the Motown Museum in Detroit. Powell directed the label's Artists Development Department, also known as "Motown's Finishing School." She guided many, including Robinson's Miracles, the Jackson Five and the Supremes

Associated Press

world," Robinson added. "Two days a week when you were back in Detroit you had to go to artists' development. It was mandatory. You went there and learned so many things about being in show businesses."

Powell directed the label's Artists Development Department, also known

as "Motown's Finishing School." She guided many, including Robinson's Miracles, the Jackson Five and the Supremes. She emphasized how artists should carry themselves, treat people and dress. And the training school was the only one of its kind offered at any record label, according to Powell and Motown found-

er Berry Gordy Jr., who paid tribute to her via videotape. Gordy joked that he still remembers many of Powell's aphorisms, including "Do not protrude the buttocks," and "Do not confuse me with your parents — they're stuck with you. I'm not." "You had style," Gordy said. "You gave them class." Powell came to Detroit from

her native Chicago, where she had been an actress and dramatic reader. She opened a finishing and modeling school in Detroit, believing, as she says, she "could offer some class and style to Detroit."

The lessons have long since stuck with singer Martha Reeves, who said she retained Powell during her four-year term on the Detroit City Council that ended in 2009. Powell visited schools and retirement homes to develop poise and pride in students and residents, Reeves said.

Reeves remembered going through those lessons with her group, The Vandellas, alongside the Supremes and others.

"We thought we knew everything because we could sing and dance, but she taught us how to stand and how to carry ourselves," Reeves said. "She made a difference in all of our lives." Powell, who adamantly refuses to reveal her age but is well into her 90s, told the crowd that she "will teach until there's no breath left in my body." "I love all the Motown artists," she said. "This has been a blessing. I thank God for allowing me to be here." □



# Reindeer Games



MAUREEN DOWD  
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**WASHINGTON** - On the 50th anniversary of Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech, Kerry Bentivolio, a Michigan congressman, has a dream, too: to impeach the nation's first black president.

"If I could write that bill and submit it, it would be a dream come true," the freshman Republican told a local GOP club meeting Monday in Birmingham, Mich., in a video posted on YouTube and reported by BuzzFeed.

Bentivolio graciously conceded that he'd have to come up with some grounds first. "I went back to my office and I have had lawyers come in," he said. "And these are lawyers, well - Ph.D.'s in history - I said, 'Tell me how I can impeach the president of the United States. What evidence do you have?' You've got to have the evidence." The Tea Party congressman, a member of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, hopes to find emails linking the White House to the IRS examination of groups with a "Tea Party" label seeking tax-exempt status. "I stood 12 feet away from the guy and listened to him, and I couldn't stand being there," he said of President Barack Obama, "but because he is president I have to respect the office."

Bentivolio is the perfect avatar of the impeachment fever gripping a GOP that's unmoored from reality, given that he once admitted in a court deposition, "I have a problem figuring out which one I really am, Santa Claus or Kerry Bentivolio." That's why he sometimes used the pronoun "we."

He's been playing Santa Claus - as part of a business he started 19 years ago called Old Fashion Santa - with his own six reindeer. "To project authenticity, he's even sought clearance from Selfridge Air National Guard Base in Mount Clemens to fly his sleigh in its airspace on Christmas Eve," Kathleen Gray wrote in The Detroit Free Press.

He told National Review that he takes being called crazy as a compliment, so "it didn't really bother me when people were saying, 'That guy's kooky because he has reindeer.' No, they're kooky because they don't have 'em.'"

Bentivolio also had a small role "in a low-budget independent film that seemed to suggest that 9/11 was an inside job," the magazine said.

The Free Press reported that

Bentivolio, no Edmund Gwenn in "Miracle on 34th Street," left a teaching job in 2011 "after complaints he bullied students, even telling one class on its first day that his goal was to make all the students cry once during the year." How much more gratifying to bully the president.

Not content with fighting off a popular immigration overhaul or threatening to shut down the government and set off the first federal default, hard-core congressional Republicans want to nullify the election. Unlike when the Republicans did their nutty impeachment of Bill Clinton - (Newt Gingrich is back, starring in the "Crossfire" reboot) - they don't even control the Senate. And as David Axelrod told me, there isn't a "scintilla of justification." It's lucky the president got another dog if Tom Coburn is his friend. At a town hall in Muskogee Wednesday, when an audience member called the administration "lawless," the Oklahoma senator said his buddy was "getting perilously close" to the standard of high crimes and misdemeanors.

"I wonder what Coburn is saying about his enemies," Axelrod says dryly. In Texas recently, another Republican congressman, Blake Farenthold, answered a birther at a town hall. "If we were to impeach the president tomorrow, we would probably get the votes in the House of Representatives to do it," he said, but added that it would never pass in the Senate. At another Texas session Monday, someone asked Sen. Ted Cruz (R-Canada), why they couldn't impeach Obama. "It's a good question," Cruz replied, before noting that Democrats control the Senate.

Earlier this month, the president's motorcade pulled into the Orlando Hilton and was greeted by about 50 protesters holding signs saying "Kenyan Go Home," "Impeach Obama" and "Obama Lies." BuzzFeed had a pictorial on the "Overpasses for Obama's Impeachment" fad, where people hold up home-made signs on overpasses. And they reported on 100,000 preorders for the book "Impeachable Offenses: The Case for Removing Barack Obama from Office," covering sore points from Benghazi to Obamacare to TSA screenings. This month has been rife with efforts among the GOP "wise men," using every channel possible - polls, op-eds, cable, Twitter - to try to talk sense to the goons of August. When Condi Rice is a "wise man," you know you're in trouble. The Democrats never impeached W. and they had real grounds: starting a war on false premises and sanctioning torture. "The Republican Party is in a constant struggle between its ego and its id," Axelrod says, "and the id has mostly won out lately." It isn't the president who should leave. It's the misguided lawmakers trying to drive him out. For some of the rodeo clowns clamoring for impeachment around the country, Barack Obama's real crime is presiding while black. □



# The Dream, 50 Years Later



CHARLES M. BLOW  
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The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech keeps ringing in my head, an aching, idyllic, rhetorical masterpiece that envisions a future free of discrimination and filled with harmony and equality. But I wonder whether the day he imagined will ever come and whether many Americans have quietly abandoned King's dream as a vision that can't - or shouldn't - exist in reality.

I'm absolutely convinced that enormous steps have been made in race relations. That's not debatable. Most laws that explicitly codified discrimination have been stricken from the books. Overt, articulated racial animus has become more socially unacceptable. And diversity has become a cause to be championed in many quarters, even if efforts to achieve it have taken some hits of late.

But my worry is that we have hit a ceiling of sorts. As we get closer to a society where explicit bias is virtually eradicated, we no longer have the stomach to deal with the more sinister issues of implicit biases and of structural and

systematic racial inequality.

I worry that centuries of majority privilege and minority disenfranchisement are being overlooked in puddle-deep discussions about race and inequality, personal responsibility and societal inhibitors. I wonder if we, as a society of increasing diversity but also drastic inequality, even agree on what constitutes equality. When we hear that word, do we think of equal opportunity, or equal treatment under the law, or equal outcomes, or some combination of those factors?

And I worry that there is a distinct and ever-more-vocal weariness - and in some cases, outright hostility - about the continued focus on racial equality.

In this topsy-turvy world, those who even deign to raise the issue of racial inequality can be quickly dismissed as race-baiters or, worse, as actual racists. It's the willful-ignorance-is-bliss approach to dismissing undesirable discussion.

In this moment, blacks and whites see the racial progress so differently that it feels as if we are living in two separate Americas.

According to a Pew Research Center poll released Thursday, nearly twice as many blacks as whites say that blacks are treated less fairly by the police. More than twice as many blacks as whites say that blacks are treated less fairly by the courts. And about three times as many blacks as whites say that blacks are treated less fairly than whites at work, in stores or restaurants, in public schools and by the health care system.

In fact, a 2011 study by researchers at Tufts University and Harvard Business School found, "Whites believe that they have replaced blacks as the primary victims of racial discrimination in contemporary America."

And in these divergent realities, we appear to be resegregating - moving in the opposite direction of King's dream.

The Great Migration - in which millions of African-Americans in the 20th century, in two waves, left the rural South for big cities in the North, Midwest and West Coast - seems to have become a failed experiment, with many blacks reversing those migratory patterns and either moving back to the South or out of the cities.

As USA Today reported in 2011: "2010 census data released so far this year show that 20 of the 25 cities that have at least 250,000 people and a 20 percent black population either lost more blacks or gained fewer in the past decade than during the 1990s. The declines happened in some traditional black strongholds: Chicago, Oakland, Atlanta, Cleveland and St. Louis." In addition, a Reuters/Ipsos poll released this month found that "about 40 percent of white Americans and about 25 percent of nonwhite Americans are surrounded exclusively by friends of their own race."

Furthermore, there is some evidence that our schools are becoming more segregated, not less. A study this year by Dana Thompson Dorsey of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill found that "students are more racially segregated in schools today than they were in the late 1960s and prior to the enforcement of court-ordered desegregation in school districts across the country."

I want to celebrate our progress, but I'm too disturbed by the setbacks.

I had hoped to write a hopeful, uplifting column to mark this anniversary. I wanted to be happily lost in The Dream. Instead, I must face this dawning reality. □





## Baby Snow Leopard Born At Bronx Zoo Now On Display

The unnamed male snow leopard cub, which was born in April, plays at the Bronx Zoo in New York. The cub is now on display at the zoo and is the offspring of Leo, a snow leopard who arrived at the facility after being orphaned in 2005 in Pakistan. (Hiroko Masuike/The New York Times)

**LISA W. FODERARO**

© 2013 New York Times

**NEW YORK** - A 17-pound snow leopard, born this spring at the Bronx Zoo, is now on display, the first son of an orphaned snow leopard from Pakistan.

The cub, still unnamed, is the offspring of Leo, who was brought to the zoo after his mother and siblings were killed in 2005 in Pakistan. Snow leopards are tricky to breed in captivity since there is a brief window of fertility each year. Leo's first attempt was not successful. But earlier this year, zoo officials paired him with Maya, a proven breeder, and the match took. The new cub was born on April 9; officials at the zoo wanted to make sure that he was healthy and well-adjusted before officially putting him on display. Until now, the cub and Maya have been kept out of public view. (In the wild, snow leopard fathers leave the scene after mating and play no role in rearing their young; so Leo, who weighs 83 pounds, is

in a separate enclosure in the same exhibit, Himalayan Highlands.)

On Friday, ignoring a reporter, the cub tumbled over a rocky outcropping, playfully stalked his 66-pound mother and rubbed his face against a log. The cub is still nursing, but he has started eating solid food, primarily raw chicken.

"We let the mother do all the work," said Lacy Martin, a senior wild animal keeper. "She's doing an excellent job, so there's no reason to interfere. He's gotten much more brave and has a lot of spunk."

Nadeem Hotiana, the press attaché at the Pakistani embassy in Washington, said in a telephone interview that the country had decided to send Leo to the Bronx Zoo because Pakistan lacked an "appropriate facility" to care for the orphaned cub.

The Bronx Zoo is the acknowledged leader in snow leopard care and husbandry. In 1903, it was the first zoo in North Amer-



The male snow leopard cub rests at the Bronx Zoo in New York. (Hiroko Masuike/The New York Times)

ica to exhibit snow leopards. Since then the zoo has bred more than 70 of them. They are among the planet's most endangered large cats, with a range limited to the remote mountains of Central Asia and parts of Bhutan, China, India, Mongolia and Russia. The Bronx Zoo now has 10 snow leopards in its collection, a sizable fraction of the total of 137 snow leopards in accredited zoos in North America.

The cub's birth is part of the Species Survival Plan, a cooperative breeding pro-

gram meant to maintain genetic diversity and demographic stability in zoo populations of threatened and endangered animals. Patrick Thomas, the zoo's general curator and associate director, said the birth represented a "significant boost to the genetics" of the snow leopard program.

In the wild, snow leopard cubs stay with their mothers for about two years. "Right now that cub's whole world revolves around its mother," said Thomas, who was part of the team that

traveled to retrieve Leo from the Naltar Valley in Pakistan in 2006. "He relies on her for food and companionship."

In Pakistan, the Wildlife Conservation Society has worked with local officials on a number of conservation efforts, training more than 100 rangers to monitor snow leopards and other wildlife and to stop deforestation and poaching.

"While Leo is on loan to the Bronx Zoo, we hope that his presence in the United States and ongoing bilateral cooperation on conservation efforts will help deepen the links between the people of Pakistan and the United States," Richard G. Olson, the U.S. ambassador to Pakistan, said in a statement.

Asad M. Khan, Pakistan's chargé d'affaires in Washington, also issued a statement: "It's heartening to learn that Leo had his own cub, a male, this summer. Leo has served as a symbol of deep friendship and abiding good will between our two countries." □